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## Death of Baird's cat prompts confusion

**THATCHER** A brief message about a felled feline really caused the fur to fly this week, prompting erroneous rumours about the demise of no less than Margaret Thatcher.

The brouhaha began at a Toronto gala in tribute to Canada's military.

Some 1,700 luminaries, including Prime Minister Stephen Harper, were in the middle of dinner Tuesday night when smart phones throughout the room began to buzz with the news: "Lady Thatcher has passed away."

Turns out it was Transport Minister John Baird's beloved 16-year-old cat — whom he'd named Thatcher out of admiration for one of his political heroes — who had ceased to be.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, left, and Prince Charles lay wreaths during Remembrance Day services at the National War Memorial, yesterday.

# Time to remember

## Prince Charles joins Canadians on day to honour heroes

TRACEY TONG
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**"It's so beautiful."**

Ninety-one years old, Second World War veteran Sgt. Robert Guy attends the Remembrance Day ceremony at the National War Memorial every year he is able.

"It means quite a bit to me," said the London, Ont., resident, who began serving as a 20-year-old in 1931. He lost many friends during the war, and never fails to think of them during the ceremony.

Yesterday, tens of thousands of people attended a packed ceremony downtown to honour Canadian war veterans and remember those who died for the country.

Prince Charles, colonel-in-chief of three Canadian regiments, and Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean, titular commander-in-chief of the Canadian Forces, both donned full military dress as they laid wreaths at the foot of the monument. Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Gen. Walter Natynczyk, and this year's Silver Cross mother, Della Marie Morley of East Saint Paul, Man., among others, also laid wreaths. Morley's son, Cpl. Keith Morley, was killed in Afghanistan in 2006.

Before the ceremony, Prince Charles issued a statement thanking Canadian troops in Afghanistan for their service.

"We join with the Canadian people in expressing our proud and heartfelt gratitude to all members of Her Majesty's Canadian Forces who are currently serving in Afghanistan for your selfless dedication on behalf of us all."

Ottawa resident Amy Schulz said she makes a point to attend the Remembrance Day ceremony when she can.

"It's a day to remember the sacrifices that were made for our freedom," she said. "It's great to be able to stand here at an event like this and not worry that anything is going to happen."

She even caught a glimpse of Prince Charles, she said. "It's wonderful that he attended," she said.

Joe Hager of Ottawa attends the ceremony every year. "It's getting harder and harder for veterans to come down," he said. "The least we can do is come down for them."

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

## H1N1 clinics closed Friday

TRACEY TONG
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### Flu Outbreak

**HEALTH** Ottawa Public Health is suspending its H1N1 mass vaccination clinics at the end of the day today.

Although a shipment of roughly 26,000 doses of the adjuvanted vaccine was expected to have arrived late yesterday, Ottawa Public Health still expects to run through the vaccine supply by this evening.

There is no information about the size and date of the next shipment.

The suspension of the clinics is due to a recently announced vaccine manufacturing slowdown that affects distribution across the country.

By this evening, the city will have distributed almost 190,000 doses of the vaccine to the sequenced priority groups, which accounts for about 22 per cent of the Ottawa population.

"We're still on track," said Ottawa's medical officer of health Dr. Isra Levy. "The need to temporarily suspend operations is disappointing but we can still deliver the vaccine in a timely way."

Firefighters and police officers who have not received their vaccines by today will still be able to access them.

### News on the Move

**What's this barcode for?**
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**Sports** pg 14

**Sens set to face Emery**

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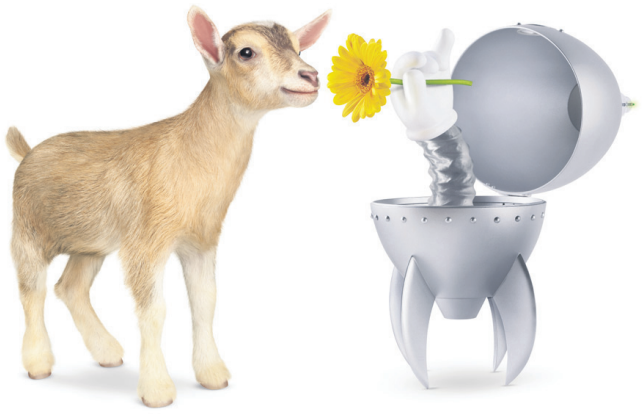

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# Local

## Shredding it for a cause

**Local businesses and residents can securely destroy up to five cubic feet of confidential documents and raise funds for a great cause this Saturday at Shred-it For A Cure. Between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m., the Securit/Shred-it team will accept all documents for shredding free of charge at 1171 Kenaston St. with donations to the Ottawa Regional Cancer Foundation. Tax receipts will be provided. To date, Shred-it For A Cure has raised $47,592.49 for cancer care and research in our community.** METRO OTTAWA

METRO INTERNATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE YEAR 2009 Festival of Media Awards

## News in brief

**HOV** The City of Ottawa's first high occupancy vehicle lane opens today. To be located on Highway 417 from Eagleson Road to Moodie Drive, the HOV lanes on provincial highways are reserved for passenger vehicles, including cars, small commercial trucks, buses, motorcycles and taxis carrying at least two people.

**CHARGES** Police charged 561 people for failing to buckle up in cars, for improper use of car seats and for careless and distracted driving last month.

METRO OTTAWA

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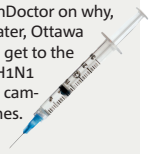
WHAT'S ONLINE TODAY

**Video** Home to RIM's millionaires' row, Waterloo now grapples with rising unemployment at **metronews.ca/canada**

**Blogs** SpinDoctor on why, sooner or later, Ottawa will have to get to the bottom of H1N1 vaccination campaign glitches.



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# Tweak plan, don't scrap it, says CEO

## Greenberg admits Lansdowne partnership needs work, but doable

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**Roger Greenberg will be among the first to admit the Lansdowne Partnership Plan isn't perfect.**

Still, it's a lot better than any other option being proposed, said the chair and CEO of the Minto Group and chief proponent for the Ottawa Sports and Entertainment Group.

"We'll tweak it to make it better," said Greenberg. "But don't throw the whole thing out and say we'll start from scratch all over again, which is what will happen if our plan is rejected. Then we're out. We're gone."

Greenberg said since the details of the plan were revealed Sept. 2, the city has asked the group to recommend an alternative plan — including reducing the retail space and making Aberdeen Pavillion and the Horticulture Building part of what's called the front lawn — that would address some public concerns.

**"Don't throw the whole thing out and say we'll start from scratch all over again ... Then we're out. We're gone."**
Roger Greenberg, Minto Group CEO

Greenberg said that would open half the park up to whatever the city wants to do with it, even a design competition. The stadium, retail buildings and other smaller projects would occupy the rest of the park.

Capital Ward Coun. Clive Doucet called the alternative plan another attempt to convince the city to just give away the park, which is the wrong thing to do.

Doucet insisted the best way to decide the future of the park is to have an international design competition for the whole park. By moving forward with the Lansdowne Partnership Plan, city council will earn a worldwide reputation as the city that gave away its biggest and best central piece of land.

In the last couple of months, public opinion has been growing in opposition to the plan, but Doucet said he's unsure how that will manifest itself around the council table.

He said some councillors, especially in rural wards, may not have heard from many residents opposed to the plan.

A new poll conducted by COMPAS for Friends of Lansdowne found that 77 per cent of Ottawa residents want the proposal rejected or postponed.

To see the results of the Friends of Lansdowne poll, visit metronews.ca/local.

# Rockettes kicking their way into town

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They're known for their eye-high kicks, precision moves and glamorous looks.

When the Radio City Rockettes come to Ottawa to perform at Scotiabank Place for the first time this Sunday, audiences will see the arena production of the Radio City Christmas Spectacular — a show well-known at New York's Radio City Music Hall.

But behind the smiles and moves that show hundreds of rehearsal hours are American and Canadian girls who consider each other best friends and are still thrilled, after many years on the job, to be performing in a longstanding classic.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

**From left, Rockettes Julie Tomaino, Jocelyne Levesque, Kristin Jantzie and Laura Danelski strike a pose in Westboro during a recent promotional tour for their show at Scotiabank Place Sunday.**

Vancouver resident Julie Tomaino still remembers the day, more than five years ago, that she got the job.

"I jumped up and down, cried and called my mom, in that order, in about three minutes," she said.

Windsor's Jocelyn Levesque had a similar reaction. "I never thought in my wildest dreams I'd get it," she said. Eight years later, she still calls the feeling of being on stage "amazing."

Being a Rockette means rehearsals six hours a day, six days a week during the season, as well as performing up to five or six shows a day. In the off-season, it's dance classes, pilates and yoga, said Laura Danelski.

Despite being almost 90 years old, the show remains popular.

"I think it appeals to the child inside everyone," Danelski said. "It's a big family show."

The Rockettes themselves feel like family, she added. "We spend all our holidays together, we travel together and we've gone to each other's weddings. We're best friends. That's the most special part of the show for me."

## New room is capital in library's books

**OTTAWA ROOM** Following an extensive renovation, the Ottawa Public Library has reopened its room dedicated to the history of the nation's capital.

Established in 1955, the Ottawa Room was part of the library's contribution to the City of Ottawa's centennial year.

Holdings include more than 25,000 books, documents and reports in English and French, over 1,200 maps dating from 1856 to the present, an extensive vertical file collection on approximately 1,550 local subjects, a collection of community newspapers and over 500 high school yearbooks.

TRACEY TONG/METRO OTTAWA

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**Outgoing ADQ boss slams Tories**

The outgoing leader of the Action democratique du Quebec blames the federal Tories for helping to destroy his party. In a scathing open letter, Gilles Taillon says his decision to sever ties with the federal Conservatives prompted a harsh response. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Canada

## Free school for kids of deceased

McMaster University has joined several other institutions offering four years of free tuition to the children of Canadian soldiers killed in military action. The university announced yesterday it will also provide residence accommodation and a meal plan for the first year of study, as part of the Project Hero program. The program was launched earlier this year to provide support to the sons and daughters of Canadian military members killed while serving in an active mission. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Families of fallen gather at home, abroad

## Loved ones of slain soldiers meet at Kandahar Airfield to honour sacrifice of Afghanistan veterans

**Heavy hearts were lifted just a little yesterday during Remembrance Day ceremonies in Canada's Afghan war zone, where widows came in hopes of finding meaning in their sacrifice and the next generation of veterans moved to firm the nation's resolve.**

Afghan National Army soldiers stood by their Canadian counterparts as a small crowd, Defence Minister Peter MacKay and Industry Minister Tony Clement among them, gathered around the sprawling marble cenotaph at Kandahar Airfield.

The memorial is etched with the names and faces of the 133 Canadian soldiers who have died as part of the Afghan mission since it began in 2002 — a list that includes Cpl. Michael Starker, who was killed in a gun battle with Taliban insurgents in 2008.

"I miss him," said Starker's wife, Nicole, who was among the family members of seven slain troops who made the trip to Kandahar to mark Remembrance Day in the country where their loved ones gave their lives in the name of a greater cause.

"Happy memories ... hopefully those will come with time. Mostly it's just pain right now, still."

The trip to Kandahar was the fifth such visit arranged by the Canadian Forces, which aims to help relatives cope with the grieving process of losing a loved one.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

### Damaged

- Thousands of people lined streets in Fredericton yesterday for a Remembrance Day ceremony at the provincial cenotaph which had been damaged by vandals just days earlier. The remains of the cross were hauled away Tuesday after it had been toppled and broken over the weekend.

GARY NYLANDER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A picture of Karine Blais, one of the Canadian women soldiers killed in Afghanistan, was left at the Cenotaph in Kelowna, B.C.'s City Park at the conclusion of a Remembrance Day ceremony.

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IAN MARTENS/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Garrett McAlister, 7, whose mother served in the Navy, stands in front of his grandmother, Diane McAlister, to show appreciation during a Remembrance Day ceremony in Lethbridge, Alta.

# Harper to kick off overseas tour today

**POLITICS** Avoid a fall election? Check. Distribute billions in stimulus spending across Canada? Check. Win a parliamentary vote aimed at abolishing the long-gun registry? Check. Dispatch four federal by-elections? Check. Burnish international credentials, especially with emerging powers?

Prime Minister Stephen Harper embarks today on the first of three consecutive trips abroad that will keep him out of the House of Commons virtually until the fall session ends in mid-December.

Trips to Singapore, India, Trinidad and Tobago, China and South Korea mark the culmination of an autumn political season that has seen Conservative fortunes taking flight.

Barring an unforeseen international misstep by Harper, the heavy travel itinerary may help glide his minority government through the end of 2009. His travels should also help smooth the way for next summer's international summitry in central Ontario.

"It's an opportunity to underscore the importance of continued global co-operation during these times," Harper's spokesman, Dimitri Soudas, said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

**Wildrose party takes aim at energy issues**
Alberta's Wildrose Alliance party says it's launching a task force to develop an energy platform for the next provincial election. It says Premier Ed Stelmach and the Progressive Conservative Party of Alberta have lost their way when it comes to energy issues. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Survival instinct prompts some to jump queue?

Flu **Outbreak**

**Call it flu frenzy. More and more reports are surfacing of people jumping the queue to get the vaccine against the H1N1 influenza virus (also known as swine flu).**

Hockey players, hospital board members, and students and staff at private colleges have had their shot. One expert says it just might be people's survival instinct kicking in.

The will to survive might trump all, said Scott Schieman, a University of Toronto sociology professor.

"Part of it probably has to do with just levels of anxiety reaching a certain point where some people sort of feel survival takes priority," Schieman said.

**"When threat levels rise, some ... can't keep it together."**
Scott Schieman, sociology professor

"Social norms that typically would provide order and a sense of fairness and help people keep a sense of calm get tossed aside.

Schieman likens it to being stuck in traffic, and people driving along the shoulder to cut in front.

"When threat levels rise, some people can't keep it together," Schieman added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Quebec stands alone on gun registry: Poll

**FIREARMS** Quebecers are alone in wanting to save the long-gun registry, a new poll suggests.

Outside the province, most Canadians aren't convinced the registry has done much to reduce gun crime and appear content to abolish it.

The survey by The Canadian Press Harris-Decima was conducted Nov. 5-8, just after the House of Commons gave approval in principle to a private member's bill aimed at killing the controversial registry.

The bill, sponsored by a Conservative MP with the wholehearted endorsement of the Harper minority government, passed its first hurdle with help from 12 New Democrats, eight Liberals and one Independent.

**Split**

- Ontarians were split on the gun registry issue, with 42 per cent favouring abolition and 40 per cent opposed.

In Quebec, a majority of respondents — 56 per cent — said they're opposed to abolishing the registry.

And 50 per cent said they believed the registry has helped reduce gun crime.

Outside Quebec, it was a different story.

Majorities in Atlantic Canada (50 per cent), British Columbia (51 per cent), Alberta (64 per cent) and Manitoba and Saskatchewan (61 per cent) said it's a good idea to get rid of the registry. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Olympics **The flame sparks young delight**

JONATHAN HAYWARD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Young children cheer yesterday as they see the Olympic flame in Sheshatshui, N.L. The flame is on a 106-day cross-country relay that will end in Vancouver to mark the start of the 2010 Games.

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**New species of dinosaur discovered**

A newly discovered dinosaur species that roamed the Earth 200 million years ago may help explain how the creatures evolved into the largest animals on land, scientists in South Africa said yesterday. The Aardonyx celestae was a seven metre-long herbivore. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# World

## Anniversary of Arafat's death observed

**Tens of thousands crowded around the grave of the late Yasser Arafat yesterday to mark the fifth anniversary of the iconic Palestinian leader's death. Arafat's successor, President Mahmoud Abbas, used the occasion to repeat his refusal to return to talks with Israel until it stops building West Bank settlements. The crowd cheered as the embattled Abbas spoke.** THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Weather caused Brazil blackout?

**ENERGY** Brazil's energy minister says a blackout that left 60 million people in the dark was caused by bad weather. Edison Lobao says heavy rains and strong winds caused three transformers on a key high-voltage transmission line to short circuit, cutting the line. That eventually caused the massive Itaipu dam to shut down as well.

The blackout that began late Tuesday has prompted questions about Brazil's energy grid, just weeks after the nation won the right to host the 2016 Olympics. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# South Korea warns North

Reportedly deploys backup to disputed sea border where shots were fired Tuesday

**South Korea warned it was ready to deter any retaliation by North Korea following the two countries' first naval clash in seven years, reportedly deploying two warships to the disputed sea border yesterday.**

The skirmish will not deter Washington from sending an envoy to North Korea, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said, vowing to continue efforts to resolve long-standing disputes over Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program.

Tuesday's exchange of fire occurred hours before U.S. officials said President Barack Obama had decided to accept a North Korean invitation to send the envoy to Pyongyang for the first direct talks during his administration. The incident sparked speculation that the North was trying to foment tensions to gain a negotiating advantage.

Both sides blamed the other for the two-minute clash in a crab-fishing area off the countries' west coast, where both sides regularly accuse the other of violating the disputed border. North Korea's military demanded that the South apologize. The South deployed two more navy ships to deal with possible North Korean moves along the disputed western sea border, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported yesterday.

South Korea's National Intelligence Service said the incident could not have been an accidental intrusion. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

### Business as usual

- The naval clash "does not in any way affect our decision" to send nuclear envoy Stephen Bosworth to Pyongyang, U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said yesterday. "We think it is an important step that stands on its own."

LEE JIN-MAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

South Korean conservative activists shout slogans during a rally denouncing North Korea in Seoul yesterday.

## News in brief

**OPRAH** A policewoman hailed as a hero in the Fort Hood massacre says the scene was "confusing and chaotic" but that she remembers getting shot. Sgt. Kimberly Munley was one of two civilian police officers who shot at Maj. Nidal Malik Hasan, the U.S. Army psychiatrist accused of killing 13 people and wounding 29 at the Texas military base last week. She and Sgt. Mark Todd appeared on yesterday's episode of The Oprah Winfrey Show.

**DNA** Britain said yesterday it plans to keep DNA profiles of innocent people on file for at least six years instead of indefinitely, despite a European Court ruling branding the retention as a violation of human rights. Britain has one of the largest DNA databases — many of which are unindicted terrorism suspects — in the world, with more than 4.5 million profiles on file, larger than that of the United States. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**Fossilized dinosaur sold**
An auctioneer says a fossilized Tyrannosaurus rex that failed to sell at auction in Las Vegas last month has been bought by a private buyer who intends to have it displayed in a museum. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# UN official calls for fast

**Nearly 200 million children in poor countries have stunted growth because they don't get enough to eat, according to a new report published by UNICEF yesterday before a three-day international summit on the problem of world hunger.**

The head of the United Nations food agency, meanwhile, called on the world to join him in a day of fasting ahead of the summit to highlight the plight of one billion hungry people.

Jacques Diouf, director general of the Food and Agriculture Organization, said he hoped the fast would encourage action by world leaders who will take part in the meeting at his agency's headquarters starting Monday.

More than 90 per cent of those children live in Africa and Asia, and more than a third of all deaths in that age group are linked to undernutrition, according to UNICEF.

South Asia is a particular hotspot for the problem, with just Afghanistan, Nepal, India, Bangladesh and Pakistan accounting for 83 million hungry children under five. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Every six seconds

• Frequency in which a child dies from hunger somewhere in the world, according to a video produced by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization.

# Record gold prices confound predictions

MARKETS A new gold rush is on. The price of the precious metal is soaring, hitting a record $1,119 US an ounce yesterday — confounding market analysts who thought there was no way gold would remain so expensive when it first cracked the unheard-of $1,000 mark last year.

The remarkable run has implications far beyond savvy investors. In New York's diamond district, more people started showing up late last year to sell their gold, and the crush hasn't let up, said Anthony Iannelli, owner of Iannelli Diamonds.

"They're bringing in jewelry from the '70s and '80s they don't wear anymore," he said. "They're following the news and see prices are high."

Typically, gold is a safe place for investors to park their money, not something they buy to make money. It doesn't earn any interest, and because it's always sought-after, its value tends to be fairly stable. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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**Musicians fight coal removal from mountains**

A group of music figures has begun a campaign against mountaintop coal removal. The campaign, Music Saves Mountains, is sponsored by the Natural Resources Defence Council and the Gibson Foundation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Star dog trainer killed

**Mark Stover was a dog-trainer-to-the-stars in the Seattle area. He taught obedience to the pets of Pearl Jam and Nirvana and Starbucks chairman Howard Schultz. He also trained his own dog, Dingo — for protection.**

But when Stover's killer came last month, there was nothing Dingo could do.

She was shot in the face, but survived. When deputies arrived, the only signs of her master were smears of blood in a downstairs bedroom and hallway.

Investigators have yet to find Stover's body, but prosecutors have charged his ex-wife's boyfriend with murder in a case that may have stemmed from their divorce two years ago.

Stover's friends said they knew little about the breakup but believed he had moved on and was engaged to another woman when he disappeared.

"We never talked about that — just about the dogs," said Anacortes police animal control officer Marie Padovan. "Dogs that were uncontrollable would go to Mark and they could be controlled. It's a big loss for all of us dog people."

Stover, 57, and ex-wife Linda Opdycke, 45, opened Island Dog Adventures in the early 1990s on an island her wealthy family owned 90 kilometres north of Seattle. The kennel offered massages, pedicures, a raw-meat diet and weight-loss programs. The dogs roamed the island freely.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# German man found guilty of stabbing pregnant woman

**TRIAL** A 28-year-old German man was found guilty yesterday of murder and sentenced to life in prison for fatally stabbing a pregnant Egyptian in a Dresden courtroom, an attack that triggered outrage in the Muslim world.

The court said in its ruling that because of the particularly brutal nature of the crime, defendant Alexander Wiens would not be eligible for early release.

During the trial, Wiens admitted to stabbing Marwa al-Sherbini to death at a July 1 court hearing. Wiens had argued, however, that his actions were not premeditated and that he had no xenophobic motivation.

Al-Sherbini was stabbed at least 16 times by Wiens in the Dresden courtroom where she was to testify against him. She had filed a complaint against him in 2008, accusing him of insulting her with racial slurs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## News in brief

**PELICANS** Much like its death-defying dives for fish, the brown pelican has resurfaced after plummeting to the brink of extinction. U.S. officials announced yesterday that they were taking the bird off the U.S. government's endangered species list after a struggle of almost four decades to keep the brown pelican population afloat. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TODAY'S HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT: RESURRECT A SMALL TOWN.

At Carleton University, we like to give our classes real meaning. The Batawa - Carleton Initiative is one such example. Twenty-six of our students were given the rare opportunity to help revive the town of Batawa after it was ravaged by the closing of a shoe factory. It was the chance to re-imagine it completely and create a new sustainable community with a promising future. It's another example of our dedication to delivering an educational experience that's anything but textbook. We think you'll find this is one homework assignment that comes with extra credit.

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**Louisiana war vets honoured by French officials**
French officials took part in U.S. Veterans Day celebrations at the National World War II museum yesterday by awarding the Legion of Honor to five Louisiana veterans and presenting a replica of the Liberty Bell to the museum. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Missouri cops search for bodies

**Authorities yesterday were searching a rural property in western Missouri for bodies and buried glass jars containing notes written more than 15 years ago by children who may have documented sexual abuse by five members of their own family.**

**"There has been an indication that there are body or bodies in numerous locations."**
Kerrick Alumbaugh, Lafayette County sheriff

Lafayette County Sheriff Kerrick Alumbaugh pleaded for the public's help, saying investigators "believe that there are other victims out there, and we believe people in the public can give us more information."

Alumbaugh said authorities believe there may be bodies buried on the property outside Bates City, which is about 48 kilometres east of Kansas City. He refused to say to whom any of the bodies would have belonged.

"There has been an indication that there are body or bodies in numerous locations," Alumbaugh said.

The five men were arrested Tuesday and are charged with several felonies, including forcible sodomy, rape with a child younger than 12 and use of a child in a sexual performance.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Gitmo detainee fights his transfer

**CUBA** A man from Tajikistan seeking his freedom from the U.S. military prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is challenging a practice among federal judges at the U.S. Courthouse in Washington who in some instances are short-circuiting the cases of longtime detainees.

The Obama administration is trying to pre-empt some of the cases by declaring that a detainee is being cleared for release to a foreign country and asking the judge to stop the review.

In the case of Umar Hamzayevich Abdulayev, U.S. District Judge Reggie Walton halted action on the detainee's case after the government approved a transfer of Abdulayev to Tajikistan, where the detainee says he would be persecuted if sent there. Abdulayev's argument is that his court case should continue and that he would be entitled to release into the United States if the government does not arrange for a safe country of asylum.

The judge "eviscerated the clear directives of the Supreme Court" that detainees at Guantanamo Bay have a right to challenge their detention in civilian courts, lawyers for the prisoner said in papers filed this week with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit.

Suspending his court case places Abdulayev "at risk of his worst possible fate: repatriation to torture," the court papers added. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Kidnapped priest freed unharmed

**PHILIPPINES** An Irish Catholic priest kidnapped in the Philippines a month ago has been freed unharmed and Irish authorities did not pay any ransom, the government announced last night.

Foreign Minister Micheal Martin said the Rev. Michael Sinnott "displayed great forbearance in enduring more than a month in captivity, in spite of his age and difficult health."

Six armed men abducted the 79-year-old priest Oct. 11 from his missionary home on the southern Philippine island of Mindanao, escaped by speedboat, and took him into the jungle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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## Comment

# Getting serious about skivvies

**Relating**

The bottomless mysteries of our relationships — and corporate desire to offer a product as the key to those mysteries — results in a lot of dubious data for your delectation.

British papers this week, for example, seriously depleted their supply of punning "pants" headlines and David Beckham underwear shots to report on a study of men's gitch-buying habits and what they tell us about modern couples.

"Study" is a grand word for what was really a customer survey British retailer Debenhams released to the media in hopes of a little publicity and a few sales of underwear.

Among the shocking findings: For most of their lives, guys let women buy their skivvies. The job falls first to their moms, and then girlfriends and wives.

There are, of course, exceptions, and here is where the alleged insight into relationships comes in. Men, according to the crack scientific team at Debenhams, will shell out for new underwear when single, desperately trying to head off a breakup, or looking for a new relationship.

The message from Debenhams might be parsed as thus: Girls, better come in and stock up to ensure your man isn't getting any ideas. If he's purchased some of our quality men's undergarments, thereby making himself irresistible to the ladies, he may be up to something.

There's also a less-than-subtle hint to the single man that perhaps what you need in order to correct that condition is a requisition of underwear, and Debenhams disinterestedly puts the recommended dosage of this cure at somewhere more than 31 pairs per annum.

I'm not sure I follow the logic of this dating strategy. It seems to me that if a potential mate is seeing you in your underwear, things are already going quite well. Certainly, if one is expecting company, a pair without holes is ideal, but beyond that, are brand and vintage really likely to make much difference?

Single women, Debenhams doesn't explicitly say, but would probably agree, might take to patrolling the underwear racks to spot the eligible, though this seems a little sad.

In all, Debenhams' survey tells us little about our relationships apart from the fact that they sell underwear and very much would like to sell more.

Steve Collins offers his best guesses on relationships for Metro every two weeks.

## Views

# Boring investments can be beautiful

**InBusiness**

Perhaps it's a sure sign of broad economic recovery, or maybe it's that longer term thinking is, if only momentarily, trumping the short-term perspective that usually dominates investing.

Whatever the reason, boring bricks-and-mortar type investments have become alluring. Earlier this month, Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway made his "all-in wager on the economic future of the United States" by spending $44 billion US to buy the 77 per cent of Burlington Northern Santa Fe that he didn't already own. The railroad buy is the largest single acquisition in Berkshire Hathaway's history.

Major Canadian investors are also making big bets in primary industries and infrastructure.

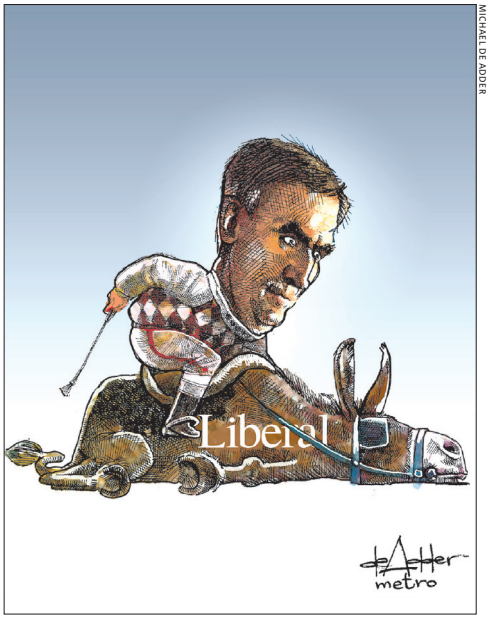
There are several reasons why such straightforward investments are desirable, starting with the fact they're readily understandable and have track records, unlike many technology plays. Fundamental businesses like railroads and health care reflect long-term economic trends — the cost-efficient, even "green," movement of goods in a growing economy in the case of railroads, and the provision of services to a growing older population in the instance of health care.

Infrastructure also has charms. Toll roads, airports, power generation and transmission and ports typically operate in stable regulatory environments and tend to provide steady, inflation-adjusted returns over long periods.

Pension investors like the CPP Investment Board have long had a soft spot for infrastructure investments. By necessity, pension funds have an eye to what their liabilities are going to look like a couple of decades from now, so buying and holding reliable cash generators like airports and roads is helpful.

But even investors with shorter time horizons can benefit from a mix of basic businesses and infrastructure that ensure participation in economic upturns while helping to moderate downturns. Water and sewage companies or roads and tunnels may not be glamorous, but unlike tech darlings or trendy retailers, they'll deliver investment returns year after year.

Charles Davies is a veteran business writer who has worked for Canadian and international news organizations.




MICHAEL DE ADDER

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**OPEC revises 2010 crude demand**
The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries revised its 2010 global crude demand up to 85.07 million barrels per day yesterday — 75,000 barrels per day higher than its assessment last month. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Business

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| Closed | US $4.50<br>US 3.6 ¢ | US $79.28<br>US 23¢ | 11,439.75<br>13.01 |

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

## Economy boosts web marketing

**Whether it's "Sit or Squat," a mobile guide to public washrooms sponsored by the makers of Charmin' bathroom tissue, or Apple Students, a Facebook site sponsored by the computer maker with 1.4 million followers, new forms of digital marketing and advertising are gaining ground.**

The recession has accelerated the trend as consumer packaged goods firms and retailers look for more cost-effective ways to get their message across, joining technology firms who were earlier adopters of new media, according to a new survey by Ipsos Reid.

"Digital media is gaining momentum," Ipsos-Reid president Steve Levy told a digital marketing conference in Toronto. "The recession is absolutely playing a part, fuelling the move to online marketing."

When advertisers and their agencies were asked about their spending intentions for next year, 80 per cent said they planned to spend more on online media, 57 per cent mentioned email and 46 per cent were looking at more mobile applications.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## China Economic powerhouse recovering

ANDY WONG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A man takes a breather as he loads stock into a truck outside the textile wholesale market in Beijing, China yesterday. The slump in China's exports eased last month as industrial output and retail sales rose sharply, the government said yesterday, showing that recovery in the world's third-largest economy was firmly on track.

## Would you buy music you can't put on your iPod?

**DIGITAL** Are you willing to buy a movie or a song that you can never keep in your home or even on your computer hard drive?

More and more companies are offering to sell you songs and movies that they store on their servers. They'll allow you to access your music and films via different devices as long as you're OK with the idea of never being able to gain physical control of what you've purchased.

This is another variation on the concept of "cloud computing." Consumers won't be purchasing a physical product or even data to download. Instead, they'll buy the right to view a movie or listen to a song an unlimited number of times on a smartphone, computer or device connected to the Internet. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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**Shoppers' profits increase**

Shoppers Drug Mart Corp. says profits moved higher in the third-quarter as more people filled their prescriptions at the retailer, helping drive up overall sales from a year earlier. The Toronto-based company reported net income of $171 million or 79 cents per share for the quarter ended Sept. 30. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Business in brief

**AIRLINE** A Hong Kong court ruled yesterday Cathay Pacific Airlines Ltd. unfairly fired 18 pilots amid a labour dispute in 2001 and ordered the airline to pay their former employees nearly $8 million US.
The ruling is a blow to Hong Kong's flagship airline, which like other carriers is still recovering from the global economic crisis and swine flu scare that sent passenger and cargo traffic plummeting.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**PROFIT** Grey Horse Corp. has booked the most profitable quarter in its five-year history. The financial services concern said yesterday it earned $1.6 million or 25 cents a share in the July-September period. That compares with year-ago profits of $1.3 million or 19 cents a share.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Survival strategies for women

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# Slow healing expected for hit housing

**The real estate market didn't fall as hard or as fast in Canada as it did in the U.S., but some spots did suffer steep losses and a recovery will be slow as investors worry about another potential economic dip, a new report suggests.**

Total losses in value across Canada will average between 10 to 20 per cent compared to the highs of two years ago, according to the study by PricewaterhouseCoopers and the Urban Land Institute.

But some areas saw a much deeper drop. The report released yesterday predicts a slow recovery to begin by the end of next year.

"For 2010, we are rating only fair investment outlooks for most property types and predict generally weak conditions for development," said Chris Potter of PricewaterhouseCoopers.

"Limp demand threatens to soften property cash flows across all sectors and most markets."

The annual Emerging Trends in Real Estate 2009 report is based on surveys of more than 900 real estate investors developers, lenders, brokers and consultants in both Canada and the U.S.

It shows Canadian real estate investors are still worried about more potential economic shocks, particularly from the U.S. financial system.

That is despite conservative banking practices in Canada and stricter regulation that saved many Canadian investors from overleveraging during the recent housing recession.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## World Bank president says U.S. recovery threatened

**ECONOMY** Stubbornly high joblessness threatens to trigger loan defaults and drag on consumption next year, hobbling a U.S. economy struggling to rebound from recession, World Bank president Robert Zoellick said yesterday.

Zoellick warned that the U.S. unemployment rate, which jumped to a 26-year high of 10.2 per cent in October, will likely remain elevated in 2010.

"You're going to have problems with delinquencies of credit card loans, consumer loans, people won't be able to pay their mortgages," Zoellick said.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Debt poses risk to eurozone: EU

**RISK** The EU warned yesterday that eurozone governments who make no effort to curb debt and deficit to agreed limits are posing a risk to the wider 16-nation currency area.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Level 2 and 4 - 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm

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Donated by Ottawa Architect, Erick McEvoy

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**For more information: www.friendsoflansdownepark.ca**

**Zambrano's mother rescued**

The mother of former major league pitcher Victor Zambrano has been rescued after a three-day kidnapping ordeal, Venezuelan authorities said yesterday. Elizabeth Mendez Zambrano, 56, was rescued late Tuesday during a "commando-style operation" in the central state of Aragua, police said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Sports

## Junior's back again

**Ken Griffey Jr., left, and the Mariners have agreed to another one-year contract that will keep the popular player in Seattle next year. Griffey, who turns 40 on Nov. 21, is likely to again be a part-time designated hitter in his 22nd season in the major leagues. Griffey is No. 5 on the career home run list with 630.**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: CHRIS.CLEMENTS@METRONEWS.CA

## Sports in brief

**H1N1** The Quebec Major Junior Hockey League has postponed three games after some players on the Shawinigan Cataractes and P.E.I. Rocket contracted the H1N1 virus. Shawinigan's games against Acadie-Bathurst on Friday and the Rocket on Saturday were postponed, along with P.E.I.'s game against Baie-Comeau on Friday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## SCOREBOARD

### NHL

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

| | GP | W | L | OL | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-Washington | 18 | 11 | 3 | 4 | 26 |
| d-New Jersey | 16 | 12 | 4 | 0 | 24 |
| d-Buffalo | 15 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 21 |
| Pittsburgh | 18 | 12 | 6 | 0 | 24 |
| N.Y. Rangers | 18 | 10 | 7 | 1 | 21 |
| Philadelphia | 14 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 19 |
| **OTTAWA** | **15** | **8** | **5** | **2** | **18** |
| Boston | 17 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 18 |
| — | | | | | |
| N.Y. Islanders | 18 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 18 |
| Tampa Bay | 15 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 17 |
| Montreal | 18 | 8 | 10 | 0 | 16 |
| Atlanta | 14 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 15 |
| Florida | 15 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 11 |
| Toronto | 16 | 3 | 8 | 5 | 11 |
| Carolina | 17 | 2 | 12 | 3 | 7 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

| | GP | W | L | OL | PT |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| d-San Jose | 19 | 13 | 4 | 2 | 28 |
| d-Colorado | 18 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 26 |
| d-Columbus | 17 | 9 | 6 | 2 | 20 |
| Los Angeles | 19 | 11 | 6 | 2 | 24 |
| Calgary | 16 | 11 | 4 | 1 | 23 |
| Chicago | 16 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 20 |
| Phoenix | 17 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 20 |
| Dallas | 17 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 20 |
| — | | | | | |
| Vancouver | 19 | 10 | 9 | 0 | 20 |
| Detroit | 16 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 19 |
| Edmonton | 19 | 8 | 9 | 2 | 18 |
| St. Louis | 16 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 16 |
| Nashville | 16 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 15 |
| Anaheim | 16 | 6 | 8 | 2 | 14 |
| Minnesota | 17 | 7 | 10 | 0 | 14 |

YESTERDAY

Buffalo 3 Edmonton 1
New Jersey 3 Anaheim 1
Washington 5 N.Y. Islanders 4 (SO)
Los Angeles 5 Carolina 2
Detroit 9 Columbus 1
Colorado at Chicago

TODAY

Florida at Boston
Atlanta at N.Y. Rangers
**OTTAWA** at Philadelphia
New Jersey at Pittsburgh
Minnesota at Tampa Bay
Vancouver at Detroit
Nashville at St. Louis
Montreal at Phoenix
Dallas at San Jose

**d** - division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points.

### NBA

**EASTERN CONFERENCE**

**ATLANTIC DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Boston | 8 | 1 | .889 | - |
| Philadelphia | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3½ |
| Toronto | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3½ |
| New York | 1 | 8 | .111 | 7 |
| New Jersey | 0 | 8 | .000 | 7½ |

**SOUTHEAST DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Miami | 6 | 1 | .857 | - |
| Atlanta | 6 | 2 | .750 | ½ |
| Orlando | 6 | 2 | .750 | ½ |
| Charlotte | 3 | 4 | .429 | 3 |
| Washington | 2 | 6 | .250 | 4½ |

**CENTRAL DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Milwaukee | 3 | 2 | .600 | - |
| Cleveland | 4 | 3 | .571 | - |
| Chicago | 4 | 4 | .500 | ½ |
| Indiana | 3 | 3 | .500 | ½ |
| Detroit | 3 | 4 | .429 | 1 |

**WESTERN CONFERENCE**

**SOUTHWEST DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 5 | 2 | .714 | - |
| Houston | 4 | 3 | .571 | 1 |
| San Antonio | 3 | 3 | .500 | 1½ |
| New Orleans | 3 | 5 | .375 | 2½ |
| Memphis | 1 | 7 | .125 | 4½ |

**NORTHWEST DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 6 | 2 | .750 | - |
| Portland | 5 | 3 | .625 | 1 |
| Oklahoma City | 3 | 4 | .429 | 2½ |
| Utah | 3 | 5 | .375 | 3 |
| Minnesota | 1 | 7 | .125 | 5 |

**PACIFIC DIVISION**

| | W | L | PCT | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Phoenix | 7 | 1 | .875 | - |
| L.A. Lakers | 6 | 1 | .857 | ½ |
| Sacramento | 4 | 4 | .500 | 3 |
| L.A. Clippers | 3 | 5 | .375 | 4 |
| Golden State | 2 | 5 | .286 | 4½ |

YESTERDAY

Toronto 99 Chicago 89
Atlanta 114 New York 101
Boston 105 Utah 86
Indiana 108 Golden State 94
Philadelphia 82 New Jersey 79
Charlotte at Detroit
Denver at Milwaukee
Cleveland at Orlando
Portland at Minnesota
Memphis at Houston
Dallas at San Antonio
New Orleans at Phoenix
Oklahoma City at L.A. Clippers

TODAY

Cleveland at Miami
Phoenix at L.A. Lakers

### NFL

**AFC**

**EAST**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New England | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 |
| N.Y. Jets | 4 | 4 | 0 | .500 |
| Miami | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 |
| Buffalo | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 |

**SOUTH**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Indianapolis | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Houston | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 |
| Jacksonville | 4 | 4 | 0 | .500 |
| Tennessee | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 |

**NORTH**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cincinnati | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 |
| Pittsburgh | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 |
| Baltimore | 4 | 4 | 0 | .500 |
| Cleveland | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 |

**WEST**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denver | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 |
| San Diego | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 |
| Oakland | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 |
| Kansas City | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 |

**NFC**

**EAST**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Dallas | 6 | 2 | 0 | .750 |
| Philadelphia | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 |
| N.Y. Giants | 5 | 4 | 0 | .556 |
| Washington | 2 | 6 | 0 | .250 |

**SOUTH**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New Orleans | 8 | 0 | 0 | 1.000 |
| Atlanta | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 |
| Carolina | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 |
| Tampa Bay | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 |

**NORTH**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Minnesota | 7 | 1 | 0 | .875 |
| Green Bay | 4 | 4 | 0 | .500 |
| Chicago | 4 | 4 | 0 | .500 |
| Detroit | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 |

**WEST**

| | W | L | T | PCT |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arizona | 5 | 3 | 0 | .625 |
| San Francisco | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 |
| Seattle | 3 | 5 | 0 | .375 |
| St. Louis | 1 | 7 | 0 | .125 |

TODAY

Chicago at San Francisco

SUNDAY

Buffalo at Tennessee
Denver at Washington
Tampa Bay at Miami
Jacksonville at N.Y. Jets
Cincinnati at Pittsburgh
New Orleans at St. Louis
Atlanta at Carolina
Detroit at Minnesota
Kansas City at Oakland
Dallas at Green Bay
Philadelphia at San Diego
Seattle at Arizona
New England at Indianapolis

MONDAY

Baltimore at Cleveland

# Greetings old friend

## Sens set to renew acquaintances with former teammate

**NHL PREVIEW**

**Ottawa** at **Philadelphia**

**Ray Emery always gave the Senators plenty to talk about during his time in Ottawa.**

And although more than 19 months have passed since he last suited up here, he was again a popular topic of conversation ahead of the Senators' first meeting with their flashy former goaltender since he left under a cloud of controversy.

With Emery now playing a key role for the Philadelphia Flyers, the Senators are expected today to renew acquaintances with a netminder who quickly achieved success in Canada's capital and just as quickly wore out his welcome, forcing Ottawa to buy out his contract following the 2007-08 season.

"I think he became a distraction toward the end for sure and both parties needed to move on, for him to be successful and for our team to be successful," centre Jason Spezza recalled yesterday before the Senators left for Philadelphia.

Emery spent parts of five seasons with the Senators and helped them to their greatest success — a berth in the 2007 Stanley Cup final. It was that run that partly helped him achieve hero status in Ottawa.

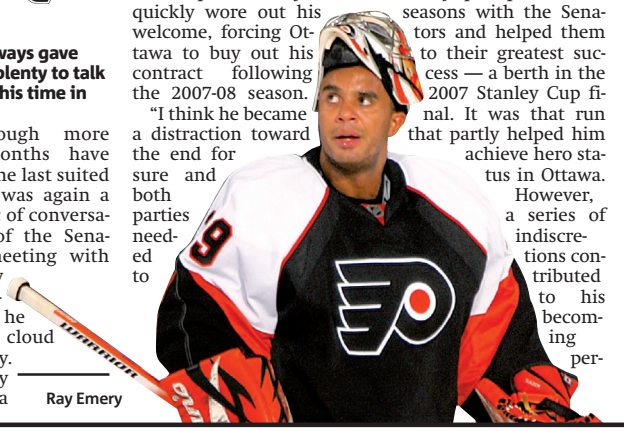
However, a series of indiscretions contributed to his becoming persona non grata with the fans, media, and most importantly, Senators management.

"He created a little bit of it himself, but it also snowballed and people seemed like they wanted to run him out of town towards the end there," said Spezza, who remains a close friend of Emery.

Despite his controversial time in Ottawa, Emery remains in the good books of his former teammates.

"He's a good guy and he had a bad rap here, but as far as in the dressing room, guys liked him and that's basically the bottom line," said Senators right-winger Chris Neil, who once engaged in a standoff with Emery at practice.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ray Emery

# Als dominate East all-star selections

**CFL** After dominating the CFL during the regular season, the Montreal Alouettes dominated the East Division all-star selections yesterday.

The Alouettes, who posted a CFL-best 15-3 record, led all teams with 17 selections. Voting was conducted by members of the Football Reporters of Canada, CFL head coaches and fans.

Quarterback Anthony Calvillo, the CFL's outstanding player last year and a nominee for the award in 2009, led the way for Montreal on offence. Joining him were running back Avon Cobourne, receivers Ben Cahoon, Kerry Watkins and Jamel Richardson, centre Bryan Chiu, guard Scott Flory and tackle Josh Bourke.

Hamilton tackle Dan Goodspeed and receiver Arland Bruce III along with Winnipeg running back Fred Reid and offensive lineman Brendon LaBatte captured the other spots on offence.

Montreal sported the CFL's top-ranked defence and placed six players on the unit, including tackle Keron Williams, ends Anwar Stewart and John Bowman, linebacker Chip Cox, cornerback Mark Estelle and safety Mathieu Proulx.

Winnipeg had three players voted on to the defensive team: Cornerback Jovon Johnson and defensive backs Lenny Walls and Jonathan Hefney. Also joining them were Hamilton linebackers Jamall Johnson and Markeith Knowlton.

Montreal swept the special-team nominations with Damon Duval capturing both the kicker and punter's positions. Larry Taylor claimed the special-teams spot.

The Toronto Argonauts were shut out.

The Saskatchewan Roughriders placed a team-high nine players on the West Division squad.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Phelps struggles in new suit

**SWIMMING** Michael Phelps finished second in the 200-metre medley final at the short-course World Cup yesterday, struggling in the old-style swimsuit that will become standard next year. Phelps was more than two seconds behind South Africa's Darian Townsend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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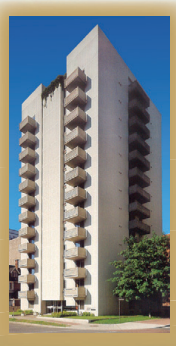

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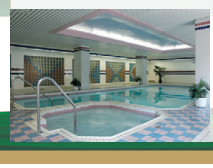

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**Sudan named neutral venue if playoff match needed**

Sudan will be the neutral venue if an African World Cup qualifying playoff match is needed between Group C rivals Egypt and Algeria. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

sports 15

# Suicide stuns Germany

## Top goalkeeper battled depression for years: Wife

**The suicide death of Robert Enke left Germany stunned yesterday, sending the soccer-obsessed country into mourning and leaving the national team without its top goalkeeper for next year's World Cup.**

CHRISTIAN CHARISIUS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Hundreds of mourners light candles during a church service for Germany's national team and Hannover 96 goalkeeper Robert Enke in Hannover, northern German, yesterday.

Enke's widow appeared at a news conference, broadcast live throughout the country, saying her husband battled depression for years before he stepped onto the tracks and got hit by an express train Tuesday evening not far from his home.

"I tried to be there for him," Teresa Enke said, choking back tears.

Robert Enke

"We thought we'd manage everything. We thought with love, we could do it. But you can't."

Hundreds of people filed into Marktkirche, a Lutheran church, yesterday evening to attend a religious service and then march silently to Hannover's soccer stadium to honour Enke, who was the local club's captain.

Germany coach Joachim Loew and captain Michael Ballack were among those attending the service, and the German soccer federation cancelled an exhibition against Chile slated for Saturday. Hannover cancelled all practices until Monday.

Enke had a good chance of being Germany's starting goalkeeper at next year's World Cup in South Africa. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS


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**Kovalchuk still out**

Atlanta Thrashers star Ilya Kovalchuk's return from a foot injury will have to wait at least one more game. Team spokesman Rob Koch said Kovalchuk did not accompany the Thrashers to New York yesterday for tonight's game against the Rangers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Taking aim at headshots

## NHL general managers coming together on possible rule change

**The NHL's general managers are getting closer to making a recommendation about how to curb headshots.**

The league's 30 GMs and their assistants wrapped up meetings with a discussion of the issue yesterday and decided to formulate a small committee to take a closer look at it before they get together again in March.

At that time, it's thought the group might be in a position to make a recommendation to the competition committee about a possible rule change. The GMs have discussed hits to the head in the past, but there was a change in the tone of conversation this time around.

"It was quite a bit different, some of the guys who have taken a strong position that it may take hitting out of the game have adjusted their views a little bit," said Carolina Hurricanes GM Jim Rutherford. "If we continue down what was talked about today then we will see a change.

"It will be on the agenda of the next meeting and I think if we got the direction that it appeared we were going, you will see a change for next year."

**"Some of the guys who have taken a strong position that it may take hitting out of the game have adjusted their views."**
Carolina GM Jim Rutherford

The issue has been pushed to the forefront because of a few notable checks this season — Mike Richards on David Booth and Willie Mitchell on Jonathan Toews, to name two. Neither of those hits resulted in a suspension because there's nothing currently in the rulebook to prevent them.

The main thing the general managers want to see eliminated is bodychecks delivered to unsuspecting players.

"A player should have an ability to anticipate a hit, prepare for a hit or avoid a hit," said Toronto Maple Leafs GM Brian Burke. "If he doesn't have those, then I think the onus has to shift to the hitter. He's got to deliver a safe hit."

Burke is one of the former hardliners who has softened a little on the issue. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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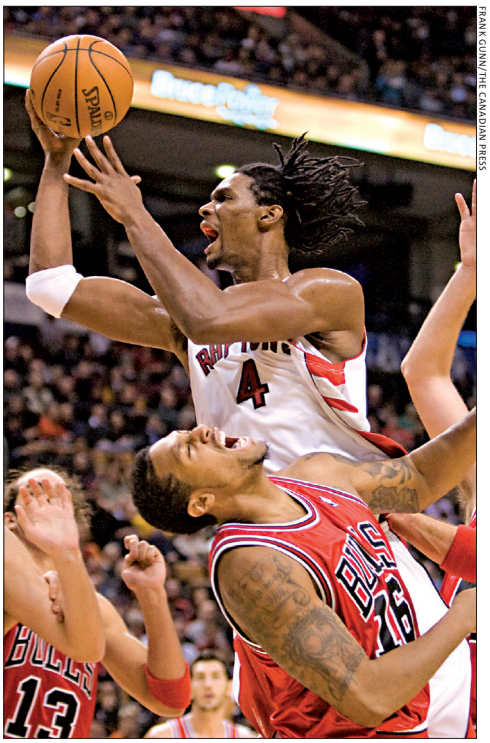
FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Raptors forward Chris Bosh drives through Chicago forward James Johnson on his way to the hoop last night in Toronto.

# Raptors gore Bulls

**NBA RESULT**

**Chicago 89 Toronto 99**

CHICAGO BULLS AT RAPTORS

**BASKETBALL** Chris Bosh had 28 points and 11 rebounds as the Toronto Raptors ended a two-game losing streak last night with a 99-89 win over the Chicago Bulls.

Jose Calderon added 18 points while Andrea Bargnani chipped in with 16 as the Raptors (4-4) fell just short of reaching the 100-point mark for a team-record eighth straight game. Hedo Turkoglu scored 11 points, while rookie DeMar DeRozan set career bests with nine points and nine rebounds.

Luol Deng and Taj Gibson had 18 points apiece for the Bulls (4-4), who lost their second straight following a three-game winning streak. Derrick Rose added 14 points, six assists and five rebounds in defeat as Chicago followed a 60-point first half by scoring just 29 points on 25 per cent shooting (10-for-40) over the final 24 minutes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Sports in brief

**FOOTBALL** Bernd Dittrich, a quarterback with the Simon Fraser Clan, died yesterday. He was 21. The school made the announcement of Dittrich's death. The cause has yet to be determined. Dittrich was taken to hospital Tuesday night after losing consciousness in a swimming pool on campus. He is survived by his family in Austria. A native of Vienna, Dittrich moved to Oklahoma at age 17. THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Argos fan wants compensation for 'pain and suffering'

**CFL** The Argonauts' dismal season may be over, but the problems continue — one of their season-ticket holders is threatening to sue them for breach of contract.

Not only does photographer Craig Roberts of Guelph want his money back, he is also demanding to be reimbursed for parking, the price of "18 hotdogs, 12 bags of peanuts and assorted other refreshments."

He also wants "an undisclosed amount for unnecessary pain and suffering."

While Roberts admits his cause is "a bit tongue in cheek," he has approached several lawyers. So far, none has chosen to take the case.

"It's just not entertaining," he said of Argo games. "I left the games feeling I was cheated."

Though Roberts is entering the final year of a three-season package — which has seen the team win seven of 36 games — he says he probably won't renew for 2010.

"After that, I'll probably go to the Bills games," he said, apparently unaware of that team's record. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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## L.A. airport police detain Mike Tyson

**DETAINED** Police say Mike Tyson has been detained on suspicion of battery after an alleged altercation with a photographer at Los Angeles International Airport.

Tyson's spokeswoman says the boxer was travelling with his wife and 10-month-old child yesterday afternoon when he was attacked by an overly aggressive paparazzi.

An airport police spokesman Sgt. Jim Holcomb says the photographer accused Tyson of hitting him. The photographer fell to the ground and cut his forehead.

He says both Tyson and the photographer want to press charges for misdemeanour battery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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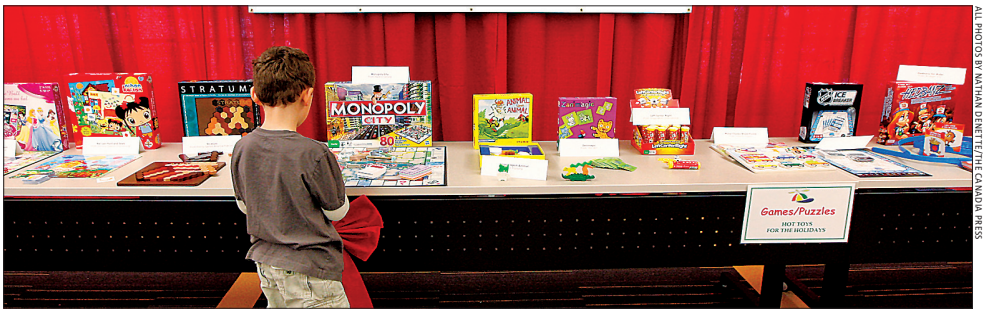
**Stocking stuffer don't**
If you're looking for a great stocking stuffer idea, skip the office supplies. No one wants to get tape, pens or glue of any kind. NEWS CANADA

HOLIDAY

# Shopping Guide

SPECIAL FEATURES EDITOR: STEPHANIE.BOMBA@METRONEWS.CA




ALL PHOTOS BY NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIA PRESS

Alex Steele, 10, left, flies a Venus mini real-like helicopter, while Ally Hurst, 10, reacts at the Hot Toys For The Holidays event. Meanwhile, a boy, at right, looks at this year's games section.

# Toys a blast from the past

## Retro items, motorized gadgets, arts and crafts among this year's hottest holiday gifts

**Consumers seeking the latest toys heading into the holidays can expect to experience a little deja vu as revamped versions of popular playthings from the past join more contemporary games, gadgets and crafts.**

The Canadian Toy Association held its seventh annual "Hot Toys for the Holidays" media event last week, where a select group of toddlers to tweens tested dozens of activities, toys and games that the association anticipates will be in demand.

Spokesman Jeff Hurst says they are definitely seeing the retro trend this year, notably with the re-emergence of Buzz Lightyear, pictured at right, from the popular Toy Story movie franchise.

"We haven't seen Buzz on the toy shelves for a while and he's out this Christmas, which is great ... (for) a lot of kids who didn't know who Buzz Lightyear was before," he said of the talking action figure, which features light and sound effects and pop-out wings.

Other blasts from the past include an updated draw-and-erase Etch-A-Sketch now featuring a joystick, as well as updated versions of classic board games like Monopoly.

Hurst said there isn't any indication there's a lone "it" toy this season.

"I think what you'll see is if you take five kids and ask them what their favourite one is, I think you are going to see differences in their favourites, which does make it a little easier."

While kids on hand at the event were drawn to all kinds of toys, divisions in terms of the types of items favoured were generally drawn along gender lines.

Angelica Pupo, 5, plays with a Barbie doll at the Hot Toys For The Holidays from the Canadian Toy Association last week.

Boys seemed more keen on construction toys like Lego and K'NEX and most notably motorized gadgets. They tested out zooming cars, activated talking trucks and sent a remote-controlled mini helicopter swooping and circling through the air.

"I like toys that have a little bit of tech," said Braeden Somers, 10, as he took a break from racing a car along a winding track inspired by the Disney movie Cars.

Somers said the Nerf blaster, which fired foam fluorescent orange darts, was one of his favourites.

"It's fun to pull the trigger and see the darts fly through the air."

Meanwhile, girls generally gravitated towards arts and crafts and more hands-on activities. They were painting pictures, slicing faux cookies, moulding edible dough and channelling their inner fashionistas making mini-outfits on dress forms.

**"I think what you'll see is if you take five kids and ask them what their favourite one is, I think you are going to see differences in their favourites."** Jeff Hurst

Rosemary Ganton, 11, was engaged using sticky strips called Wikki Stix to customize a Christmas activity book. It's the type of activity she says is right up her alley.

"(I like) more crafts and stuff you can do with your hands and you can, like, decorate your own."

Parents faced with lengthy wish lists from kids may not necessarily have the deep pockets to meet the demand.

Aware of cost-conscious parents and challenging economic times, nearly half of the more than 110 toys and games showcased were priced at $25 or less.

Neville Thomas, who brought 21-month-old Nathan to the event, said cost is a definite consideration when toy shopping for his son.

"It is a big factor because they outgrow the toys so quickly and they move on," he said. "You don't want to spend a fortune on something they're only going to use for four months or five months and then they'll want something else because they've grown out of it."

Hurst said it's not solely about giving consumers affordable toys, but ensuring they're fun and offer choice.

"I think as an industry we recognize where the world is," he said. "I think it's something we look at as an industry and reflect on what consumers want, what the kids want, but definitely want to make it affordable for parents."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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## Holiday Shopping Guide

ACTIVISION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTO

Devoted gamers say Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2 sets the benchmark for stunning cinematography and striking realism.

# Call of Duty a blockbuster

**This holiday season's biggest entertainment blockbuster likely will be a sequel to a popular franchise, with jarring depictions of war and an intricate story of good versus evil. It could easily rake in more than last year's record $155-million US opening weekend for The Dark Knight.**

But this blockbuster is not a movie.

It is Call of Duty: Modern Warfare 2, a video game that Activision Blizzard Inc. released on Tuesday. Fans worldwide are expected to spend at least half a billion dollars on the game this week.

That would at least match last year's Grand Theft Auto IV, which was the most successful video game release in history and might have been the top entertainment launch ever.

To fans, who refer to it as COD, the game sets the benchmark for stunning cinematography and striking realism, with troops of elite soldiers hunting down targets in South America, Russia, Kazakhstan and Afghanistan. Players typically plug into an online community, moving in teams to hunt down enemy snipers.

To retailers suffering through the recession, it's an early Christmas gift, a product that may get consumers in North America and Europe to open their wallets.

To detractors, it represents everything that is wrong with the billion-dollar video gaming industry: Blood-soaked images of warfare that they say pose a risk to the mental health of children and even some adults who may not be able to tear themselves away.

The release comes at an awkward time, just days after 13 people were killed and 29 wounded in a mass shooting at Fort Hood, Texas. An army psychiatrist is suspected as the gunman.

Call of Duty carries a rating of "M," meaning the content is suitable for those ages 17 and older. Made for the Sony PlayStation 3 and the Microsoft Xbox, it retails for about $60.

The Internet buzzed about the game all day on Tuesday, and there was no shortage of hyperbole.

As pre-orders topped 1.6 million, Amazon officially named COD the biggest selling pre-order video game of all time. Robert Kotick, chief executive of Activision, crowed that the shooter game is likely to be "one of the largest entertainment launches of any media of all time."

There's no question that the video-gaming industry is massive. It was worth an estimated $14.7 billion US in the United States last year, surpassing the $9.6 billion movie industry.

Investment banking firm Janco Partners in Denver, Colo., estimated the game would sell as many as 4.6 million units the first day. That would beat last year's blockbuster Grand Theft Auto IV, which sold 3.6 million units on the first day.

Through the rest of the year, the COD tally could swell to 11.1 million units, said entertainment software analyst Mike Hickey. That doesn't include revenue from the used or rental market.

> **"Just think of one of your favourite movies, and think about what it would be like to play it through as one of the characters. That's what gaming is offering today."**
> Mike Hickey

Gaming's popularity is not surprising given the quality of what's out there, Hickey said.

"Just think of one of your favourite movies, and think about what it would be like to play it through as one of the characters. That's what gaming is offering today."

Best Buy Canada has taken thousands of pre-orders online and in stores, said marketing manager Mary Ann McKenzie. "This is absolutely the biggest gaming release of the year," she said.

"It absolutely drives traffic for us, and it drives it in nice and early in the holiday season."

In a recession, "anything that creates that sense of excitement that consumers haven't felt for some months is just great. The response is like, 'Recession be damned. I'm getting it.'"

In the U.K. on Monday, the Labour Party denounced the portrayal of violence in the game and called for the government to enact measures to prevent sales to minors.

In all, about 28 million Call of Duty games have been sold in the United States, with each instalment doing better at launch than the previous one, said NPD Group analyst Anita Frazier. Optimism about the latest title led Activision to reaffirm its outlook for 2009 last week. It expects more than $2 billion in revenue for the current quarter — roughly half of the year's total.

Wedbush Morgan analyst Michael Pachter estimates Activision is spending as much as $50 million to market the game, including TV spots, billboards and ads on social-networking sites. Activision won't say how much the game cost to make, but most blockbusters require tens of millions of dollars.

For the 20-something generation, video games are entertainment on par with movies, except they last many more hours and immerse players in stories in which their actions affect the outcome.

Patrick Kienbauer, an 18-year-old student in Austria, said the game's last instalment, which has sad background music and a "comfortless ambience," let him "feel the cruelty and violence of war." He pre-ordered a copy of Modern Warfare 2 so he could get it as quickly as possible.

If this sequel does its job, it will not only pick up where the last one ended, but also advance the story in ways that will shock and surprise him — and keep him coming back for more.

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**Stocking stuffer don't**
Toiletries: No one wants a toothbrush or toothpaste, even as a stocking stuffer. NEWS CANADA

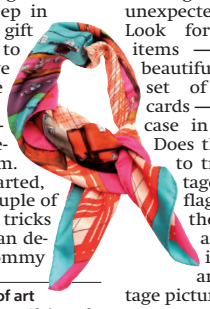
## Holiday Shopping Guide

# Gifts need not be pricey

**Finding the perfect gift for everyone on your holiday list is not as complicated and costly as you may think.**

This year, trade cash for consideration as you pick out thoughtful holiday gifts. Keep in mind that a gift doesn't have to be expensive to show the recipient that it was selected especially for them.

To get started, here are a couple of tips and tricks from Canadian designer Tommy Smythe for picking out the perfect gifts that show how much you care:



Create a work of art by framing a beautiful scarf, suggests Canadian designer Tammy Smythe.

**1 Create a work of art.** Smythe suggest framing unusual and unexpected things. Look for printed items — from a beautiful scarf to a set of playing cards — to showcase in a frame. Does the person love to travel? Buy vintage postcards or flags from places they've visited and insert them into a beautiful antique or vintage picture frame.

**2 Contribute to a collection.** Whether you're shopping for a movie buff or the book worm on your list, look for something that they can add to a collection. They'll appreciate something that's hard-to-find, such as a vintage or rare edition from a favourite director or author.

A one-of-a-kind gift, such as a handmade toy, left, or jewelry, sends the message that the recipient is one-of-a-kind too.

**3 Identify a need.** While some of us fill our wish lists with wants, research indicates that almost seven in 10 Canadians say a thoughtful gift is something they need. Smythe suggests upping that statistic to 10-in-10 Canadians. It's not always easy to coax a wish list out of everyone, so Smythe recommends asking questions to identify what the recipient really needs. Once you've done the research, you'll be surprised at how easy it is to find the perfect gift.

For the book worm on your list, why not look for something that they can add to a collection, such as a rare edition from an author?

**4 Look for something that's one-of-a-kind.** This sends the message that the recipient is one-of-a-kind too. Sites like Ebay.ca offer products from thousands of merchants and many of them offer handmade items from art and jewelry to kids' toys. NEWS CANADA

# Tips to avoid shopping stress

Looking for a stress-free shopping experience? Buy online, experts say.

When it comes to holiday shopping, research has shown that the majority of Canadians dislike the crowds and long lines associated with this extremely busy shopping period. Whether it's scouring the parking lot for an available spot or standing in line at the cash, the long lines make for an unpleasant experience. Consumers looking for a stress-free alternative should consider taking their holiday shopping online.

Shopping from the comfort of your own home doesn't mean you have to give up on purchases from your favourite retailers. Many of them have robust e-commerce sites that are open 24-7, making it convenient and easy to browse and buy.

Whether you're an experienced online shopper or an Internet newbie, here are a couple of tips from Nicky Mezo, head of marketing for PayPay Canada, to help you get started on your holiday shopping:

- **Look for alternate shipping options for U.S. merchants.** If you can't find the item you're looking for locally, consider purchasing it from a U.S. retailer and using a packaging forwarding service like MyUS.com. The service allows the merchant to ship to a U.S. address and arranges for the packages to be shipped to you.

- **Take advantage of comparison shopping.** There's no need to run from store to store, so it's easy to compare selection and pricing between different retailers. There are some great online resources that can point you in the right direction.

- **Use a secure payment method.** Most consumers are concerned about entering their banking or credit card information on multiple websites. Look for online retailers that offer a secure payment method that ensures you're only entering your account information once on a highly secure site.

NEWS CANADA

# Memorable, unique ideas for hosts with the most

The holiday season can be a hectic time when it comes to social gatherings. No matter what the occasion, it's always great to show appreciation to the host. Rather than adding yet another bottle of wine to an already full wine rack, why not consider giving your host something unique and memorable?

Below are some ideas:

**For the gourmet chef:** Buying a gift for someone who loves cooking or baking can be one of the easiest things on your shopping list. An aged bottle of balsamic vinaigrette, truffle oil or a jar of local honey are items that all cooks love to receive. Dress up the bottle by tying a ribbon and a small thank you card to it.

The World Vision Gift Catalogue includes animals and medicine as gifts.

**For the dedicated parent:** Why not consider a book or craft for the host's children? Giving the gift to the children as you arrive will help ensure the children are entertained and give the host time to talk with their guests.

**For the philanthropist:** Make a donation to your favourite charity in the name of your host. It's a meaningful way to express your appreciation and help make a positive difference in the world. The World Vision Gift Catalogue (WorldVision.ca/gifts) offers great gifts such as school supplies, warm clothing, medicine, and even items like piglets and bunnies. It will be a gift the host will truly appreciate and always remember.

**For the inspired artist:** Simple yet appreciative gifts abound for artist friends and hosts. Personalized stationery or a special pen with an engraved inscription on it are always well-received. A topical new book wrapped up with aromatherapy bath oil or candles is also a wonderful treat for those with creative flair. These types of gifts add a personal touch and an ounce of elegance by embracing your host's hobby. NEWS CANADA

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**Stocking stuffer do**
Make it personal. Personalized mugs, coasters, keychains or monogrammed hand-towels are always good to have. NEWS CANADA

## Holiday Shopping Guide

# Baked goods great gifts

Get your children involved when baking, Trish Magwood says.

**It's that time of year again — time to give back to the people in your life who have made a difference.**

With so many people to thank, it can be difficult to come up with an appropriate gift for everyone.

But the old saying still rings true: It's the thought that counts. Making your own gift is still considered by many as the most thoughtful form of giving.

When you present a homemade gift, the receiver knows you took the time to carefully craft a gift just for them.

If you're unsure of what to make, a guaranteed hit with almost anyone is a dessert that can be enjoyed with friends and family throughout the season.

"If you are baking for a neighbour, babysitter or teacher, getting your children involved in the process is a great way to spend some quality time together in the kitchen," says Trish Magwood, celebrity chef and mother of three.

"From picking the recipe to mixing up ingredients and putting on the finishing touches, kids love to get their hands dirty and taste the fruits of their labour!"

To ensure your family has a great time in the kitchen, choose a "kid-friendly" recipe that incorporates some familiar ingredients for your young sous chefs. NEWS CANADA

### Fun with baking

**Rice Krispies White and Dark Chocolate Truffles**

**INGREDIENTS:**
- 1 pkg white chocolate chips
- ¼ cup butter, softened
- 1 cup Rice Krispies Vanilla Flavour
- 1¼ cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

**METHOD:**

1 Melt white chocolate chips and butter in medium bowl in microwave or over saucepan of boiling water. Stir until smooth. Let cool at room temperature about 30 minutes.

2 Form white chocolate mixture into 2.5 cm (1-inch) balls. Roll in cereal, pressing cereal into truffles to coat well. Roll in palms to re-shape balls. Refrigerate about 30 minutes, until firm.

3 Melt semi-sweet chocolate as in step one. Dip prepared balls in chocolate to coat. Lift out with fork, allowing excess chocolate to drip off. Place on waxed paper lined baking sheet. Let cool about 1 hour.

– RECIPE FROM RICEKRISPIES.CA

Holiday shopping doesn't have to be stressful for men.

## Shopping tips to help men make most of buying gifts

It's a well-known fact: Most men hate holiday shopping.

Here's a list of tips from RedFlagDeals.com that will help men everywhere stay sane during the craziest shopping time of the year.

**Plan your attack:** When shopping, make like a ninja — get in and out before anyone knows you are even there. If you must go to the mall, prepare in advance. You should know what you're looking for, how much it costs, and where to get it before you leave home. When shopping online, shipping times vary, so expect orders to take at least a week to arrive.

**Tune out:** Bring your MP3 player with you. Your music may not be festive, but at least it won't drive you crazy.

**Shop online:** You'll save money, avoid the crowds, and find multiple gift ideas with the click of a button. You'll save a lot of time by comparing price, availability, and reviews of products on the Internet.

**Support the trend:** If you're stuck for ideas, find out what other people are getting your shopping target and get them something that compliments that gift. Is someone getting them skis? Buy them ski goggles and ski wax. NEWS CANADA

## Send your packages on time

How you send packages to your loved ones is just as important as what you send them, according to Canada Post.

"Starting early will save money and take some of the stress out of the frenzied holiday season," says Marc Smith, director of product management for Canada Post.

Planning ahead when sending packages will save you money.

**Ready early?**
Regular parcel services are the most economical way to ensure holiday packages arrive before Santa. Here are the mailing deadlines:
- Dec. 1: To the U.S.
- Dec. 11: Within Canada

**Need more time?**
If it's taken you a little longer to find that special gift, then Xpresspost is the service for you. The mailing deadlines are:
- Dec. 7: Worldwide (but Dec. 1 for Africa and Central/South America)
- Dec. 14: To the U.S.
- Dec. 22: Within Canada

**At the last minute**
In Canada, the fastest service is Priority Next A.M.. For destinations abroad, use Priority Worldwide.
- Dec. 17: Worldwide destinations; available to select countries only. Check with your post office for details.
- Dec. 21: To the U.S.
- Dec. 23: Within Canada

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**Stocking stuffer don't**

Don't give out intimates as a stocking stuffer — it can be embarrassing to get underwear in front of grandma, so avoid all intimates! NEWS CANADA

# Retailers vying for parents' cash

**Santa's on a budget this year.**

Toy retailers and makers plan to make the best of it by offering more deals and cut-price versions of more expensive toys that they hope will spur parents to spend even if they're scrimping elsewhere. Two influential lists of expected hot holiday toys show only one that's more than $100 US.

Parents are likely to keep shopping cautiously as they worry about job security, despite an uptick in home values and a rallying stock market.

"Price is more of a driving factor this year than it was before, and we will probably get our shopping done earlier so there are more choices," said Ingrid Allstrom Anderson, 32, whose husband's engineering firm has been hurt by the long slowdown in construction.

BMO Capital Markets analyst Gerrick Johnson predicts toy sales will fall 1 per cent during the holiday quarter. They were $9.82 billion last year, according to data from research firm NPD Group Inc.

That's a smaller drop than the 5 per cent decline from a year ago, but still bad for a quarter when toy retailers make up to 40 per cent of their annual sales. Toy makers can make up to half.

"I think it's going to be weak, but I don't think it's going to be the disaster it was last year," Johnson said. "Parents have a better idea of what their budgets are at this point, so parents will scrimp elsewhere, not on kids."

Bakugan 7-in-1 Maxus Helios, from Spin Master.

One bright spot comes from an unlikely place: A small manufacturer's toy hamster that retails for $8 to $10 and could be the first true "must-have" toy — that is, a toy that sells out, is hard to find and appeals to both boys and girls — since Mattel's Fisher Price TMX Elmo in 2006.

Cepia Inc.'s Zhu Zhu Pet Hamsters squeak and move around, and they've been impossible to keep on shelves, Toys R Us and Wal-Mart Stores Inc. say.

Laura Phillips, Wal-Mart vice-president of toys, says the furor over the hamsters is similar to the craze she saw for the furry robot Furby in 1998 and the electronic pet Tamagotchi in 1997.

"As soon as we're getting them in, they're literally selling from boxes. It's hard to get them on shelves," Phillips said.

Retailers certainly see the toy business as full of potential this holiday.

Wal-Mart is expanding a $10 toy promotion to 100 items, up from 10 last year. Toys R Us is opening 350 temporary stores in malls and inside Babies R Us stores in an effort to gain market share since the demise last year of KBToys, which was the largest mall-based toy seller in the U.S. Sears has also jumped into the fray with toy aisles in 20 locations.

"It's the year of competing for the consumers' dollar," said Laurie Schacht, president of The Toy Insider, a trade publication that puts together a list of toys expected to be hot for the holidays. None in its top 20 are more than $100 this year. Last year there were several, including an interactive plush golden retriever.

Top toys for the season likely will be ones that "drive innovation through creativity, not necessarily technology," said Jim Silver, an analyst at Timetoplaymag.com, which put out its annual "Most Wanted" list in October. The only item on the list that tops $100 is the The Beatles: Rock Band video game, which costs up to $249.

Examples of that on the list includes Hasbro's Candy Land Sweet Celebration Game, which retails for $29.99 and allows players to change the lengths of paths to make the game last longer or shorter.

Board games are expected to be strong, Silver said, because "you can play them over and over" and they're inexpensive. Construction sets from Legos and Mega Brands are also likely to get a boost.

Sensitive to parents' tight budgets, name-brand toy makers are targeting a variety of price ranges. For example, a Dora's Explorer Girls dolls that link to the web retails for $59.99; there's a non-web-enabled $19.99 version. Both are on the timetoplaymag.com's list.

Some shoppers are becoming more practical about their picks — and not everybody's thinking toys.

"The recession has made me think more about what my kids and other kids I buy for need — need versus necessity," said Rebecca Sullivan, 37, a public relations consultant with a six-year-old daughter and three-year-old son. "I am thinking more about educational toys, items for creative play like art supplies or something they can use for longer than a few weeks."

She's planning to buy her daughter a suitcase so she can pack her own clothes for trips, and a watch for her son to help him tell time.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ALL PHOTOS BY MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Beatles Rock Band, from Harmonix Systems, and the Barbie Fashionistas by Mattel, right, were both selected for the Time to Play Holiday 2009 Most Wanted List last month.

A character from Crayola Crayon Town, above, and the Rocky the Robot Truck by Mattel, right.

A Transformers Movie Construction Devastor, by Hasbro, right, and a hamster from Zhu Zhu Pets, by Cepia, left.

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**Stocking stuffer don't**
Don't give socks — they may be practical, but the gift lacks creativity. NEWS CANADA

## Holiday Shopping Guide

Jams or preserves can make a great eco-friendly holiday gift.

# Green your gifts this holiday season

At holiday time, along with buying for close friends and family, it is often customary to buy small gifts for a multitude of others as well — teachers, hosts, babysitters — you name it.

And while small gifts are just as thoughtful, they can sometimes be more difficult to choose. You want the recipient to like it, use it, or eat it; all without causing too much waste or impact on the environment.

Don't fear. There are lots of gift ideas out there that are not only superb items to give, but are environmentally friendly choices as well. It just takes some creativity and some thinking outside the holiday box.

To help with your holiday gift list this year, here are some great — and green — gift suggestions:

- **Forget the traditional coffee mug for the teacher.** Instead, give a sturdy insulated travel mug that will keep their coffee or tea warm for hours while they're in the classroom. Canadian Thermos Products makes a great selection of vacuum-insulated mugs in a variety of designs and styles. And to make the gift really stand out, add some fair trade coffee or organic tea inside.
- **Baked goods, jams or preserves, and other homemade items are always appreciated.** Dress them up in charming jars or wrap them in new tea towels and you're adding an extra gift that can be reused time and time again; foregoing wasteful wrapping at the same time.
- **Combine pot-luck and hostess gifts into one.** Simply bring your food in one of the new insulated grocery bags that are available. This way your food stays hot or cold and you're giving a gift that will be used countless times.
- **Instead of a customary bottle of wine,** give a reusable container filled with delicious mulled wine or other hot beverage. This is a great way to warm up on cold winter nights.

NEWS CANADA

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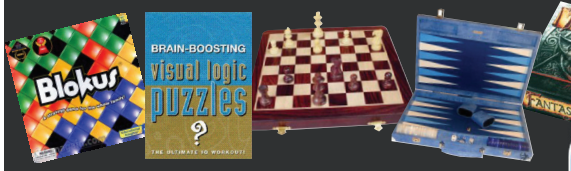


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# Metro Homes

**Recycled home**

Mark and Sally Bailey illustrate the potential of reused objects in their book Recycled Home. Indigo, $33.95, chapters.indigo.ca.

EMMA YARDLEY/FOR METRO CANADA

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

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# Recycle, reuse, **refresh**

Homes in **Style**

EMMA YARDLEY
for Metro Canada

**Any kid who went to elementary school in Canada from the 1980s onward knows the three R's: Reduce, reuse and recycle. Now that many of those same kids are homeowners, they're looking for ways to incorporate those childhood lessons into their living spaces.**

"Everybody is more aware of the topic — manufacturers and consumers — so many companies have environmentally friendly lines," says Cameron MacNeil, design editor at Canadian House & Home magazine and a freelance designer for the past ten years.

"You can look at so many environmentally friendly products today and not know they are environmentally friendly ... it's not a big trend anymore when it's becoming the norm, which is good."

Now more than ever, there are home decorating options that won't deplete the earth's limited resources.

For one of his projects MacNeil installed recycled glass countertops, while for another he picked up a dinning tabletop made from 100-per-cent post-consumer cardboard.

"Even today a client thought she needed a new sofa but I showed her that all it needed was a slipcover on the old one."

This Pulp bulletin board is constructed from stacks and stacks of repossessed paper and recycled cardboard. Umbra, $26.50, umbra.com.

A good read. Flawed and overstocked magazine pages are cut and pressed together to make this round magazine tray. Urban Barn, $40, urbanbarn.com.

When a tree falls in the forest, does it make a sound? Well, Urban Tree Salvage hears it, finds it and then takes it back to their workshop to craft it into a variety of one-of-a-kind pieces. Maple platter, $70, urbantreesalvage.com.

Each one of these silk rugs is handcrafted in India from the scraps left over from sewing saris. Small, $29.99; large, $39.99; set of two, $54.99. Museums of Canada, museumsofcanada.ca.

Transforming beer bottles into beautiful candleholders is an inspired idea. Recycled glass tea light holders, $12 each, Pistachio.

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**Pakistan fashion week**

Last week Pakistan's top designers and models took part in the country's first-ever fashion week. The four-day event, which was postponed twice due to security fears, took place in Karachi, the country's largest and most cosmopolitan city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Style

## Charmed by Barbie

**Thomas Sabo has introduced a new collection inspired by the ultimate "Charm Girl" — Barbie. The collection, called Barbie Cult, includes a sparkling variety of sterling silver charms in various forms such as a poodle, nail polish bottle, purse, shoe, lipstick and much more. Each charm is sold separately, ranging in price from $45 to $89. The charms are availale across Canada at European Jewellry stores. You can also visit thomassabo.com for availability by location.** METRO NEWS SERVICE

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

# No more plain Jane

## The Mary Jane upgrades her style and versatility

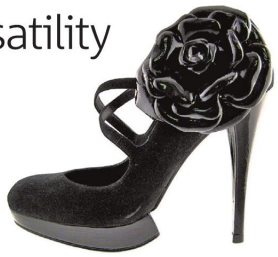
**TREND** Traditionally, Mary Jane shoes were worn by young girls for formal wear. But today's wide variety make it clear that this strappy footwear is all grown up and intended for women only.

From sequin and stud-adorned to the modern platform styles in bright hues and patent leather, the Mary Janes of today exhibit a versatility never seen before.

Here's a selection that varies from a typical day at the office (see Le Chateau's ribbon shoe or Feet First's blue suede pair) to a night out on the town (see Town Shoes' flowered stiletto or Aldo's sequin-adorned pumps).

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Studded Mary Jane, Winners ($79.99)



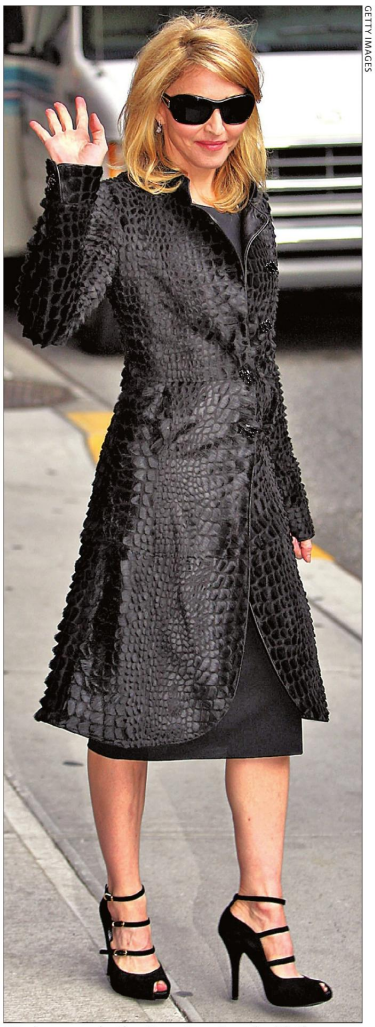
Kelis Dagger Mary Jane with flower embellishment, Town Shoes ($269)

Grey Mary Jane with ribbon, Le Chateau ($59.95).

Blue suede Mary Jane, Feet First ($99.99)

Silver sparkle Mary Jane, Aldo ($70). Visit aldoshoes.com.

Red patent leather Mary Jane, Spring ($44.99). Visit myspringshoes.com.



GETTY IMAGES

Madonna rocks the Mary Jane trend with three-strapped black platform pumps

# Roots, Tabi unveil heritage collections

**With the Vancouver Olympics on the horizon, consumer appetite for patriotic apparel will undoubtedly grow as sports lovers and fashion fans seek out duds that boast Canadian colours and symbols to show their national pride.**

While the Hudson's Bay Company creates the officially sanctioned clothing line for Canada's athletes at the 2010 Games, unveiled last month, other homegrown retailers are forging their own paths in celebration of Canadiana by releasing heritage-inspired lines.

The Canada Collection by Roots melds influences of Canadian history with the brand's varsity look and athletic heritage. The line includes tuques, scarves, watches, hoodies and hockey jerseys in a vintage-inspired palette of red, white, charcoal and grey mixes.

Tabi is also tapping into the winter sports domain with its limited edition collection of apparel and accessories.

The womenswear retailer zeroed in on hockey, curling and skating for their Olympic-inspired sweaters. It's also releasing an "Everything Canadian" vest featuring a collage of Canadian iconography, ranging from beavers and bears to the Mounties.

Tabi also teamed up with

Angela Moore limited edition Canada 2010 bracelet ($69). Available at tabi.ca.

American jewelry designer Angela Moore on a limited edition hand-painted line of earrings, necklaces and bracelets, including pieces which depict winter sports such as skiing and bobsledding along with the Maple Leaf. THE CANADIAN PRESS

# Snakeskin as animal-print option

**ALTERNATIVE** Skin is in — snakeskin, that is.

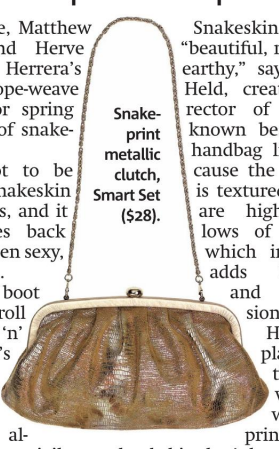
Whether it's bags, boots or blouses, the marbled, textured snakeskin look seems to be fashion's new favourite alternative to more traditional animal prints.

It's not that snake — which, except at the very highest price points, is actually embossed leather or fabric in a snakeskin pattern — is new, but it seems fresher than now-ubiquitous leopard and cheetah spots.

Andrea Linett, creative director at Lucky magazine, predicts snake will hold on to that feeling of uniqueness even after being featured on many recent designer runways, including Alexander McQueen, Gucci, Kris Van Assche, Matthew Williamson and Herve Leger. Carolina Herrera's fully beaded rope-weave print shorts for spring had the effect of snakeskin gone glam.

There's a lot to be done with the snakeskin look, Linett says, and it easily navigates back and forth between sexy, edgy and classic.

"A snakeskin boot can be rock 'n' roll if it's in a rock 'n' roll shape, or it's classic if it's in a lady shape," Linett says. Other trends don't always have that privilege, she notes: Metal studs, for example, scream rock 'n' roll or a skirt suit announces a lady.



Snake-print metallic clutch, Smart Set ($28).

Snakeskin is "beautiful, rich and earthy," says Abbe Held, creative director of Kooba, known best as a handbag line. Because the surface is textured, there are highs and lows of colour, which instantly adds interest and dimension.

Held explains that she works with printed lambskin that's been cut by the tanner to create the scales that also help the leather hold up well over time. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**Dave Grohl's blind date**
Dave Grohl formed his latest band through a musical "blind date." He asked the members of Them Crooked Vultures — guitarist Josh Homme and bassist John Paul Jones — to meet him at a medieval banquet to see if they could work together. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

# Entertainment

**Sticking around**
Aerosmith singer Steven Tyler appeared on stage with the Joe Perry Project at a show in New York Tuesday night and announced to the crowd that he is "not leaving Aerosmith." EW.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

●●●●● A CLASSIC; ●●●● EXCELLENT; ●●● GOOD; ●● FAIR; ● POOR

# Stale anthems suit Bon Jovi

## Bon Jovi

**Album:** The Circle
**Label:** Universal
**Rating:** ●●

**TRUE COUNTRY FANS** can rejoice. Jon Bon Jovi has turned his back on them after reaping platinum profits from Lost Highway, his 2007 over-the-top foray into Nashville. Unfortunately, their loss is anthem rock's gain as Jon Bon Jovi returns to his witless style of stadium rock that gave bandanas and mullets a bad name. He reaffirms his unchallenged ability to make even the freshest cliché sound stale. Who but Bon Jovi could sing a power anthem as profoundly titled as Live Before You Die? And no one but Bon Jovi would even think of building angst and social spirituality into a question like "what is the distance between a bullet and a gun?" (honest, check out track 5, Bullet). Mr. Springsteen, please let your fellow Jersey rocker know that working class doesn't mean brain dead. It's such a waste of a good guitarist. Still, it doesn't matter. The Circle will sell a gazillion and Bon Jovi will be back on TV taking his rightful place as mentor to the American Idols.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

## Blue Rodeo

**Album:** The Things We Left Behind **Label:** Warner
**Rating:** ●●●●½

**IT'S TOO EASY** to take the songwriting of Greg Keelor and Jim Cuddy for granted. Over the past 25 years, they've become like a warm and comfortable shoe to fans of Canadian roots rock. Yet, on this new 16-song, double CD, Keelor and Cuddy prove they remain unequalled at what they do. This is an ambitious album without being over-bearing or jarringly experimental like 2002's Palace of Gold. Keelor pays homage to his taste for '60s psychedelia on epic production numbers like Million Miles, with its Who-like harmonies, and Venus Rising, the album's extended guitar closer. And there's plenty for fans of Cuddy's gentler balladry on tracks like Arizona Dust. Although Blue Rodeo has lost full-time keyboard player Bob Packwood, The Things We Left Behind does not deteriorate into a jangling guitar album. There are dozens of young bands trying to put their mark on a distinctly new Canadian alt-country sound. Unfortunately, they need look no further than this album to find it.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

Bon Jovi returns to anthem rock sound on new album The Circle.

## The Cribs

**Album:** Ignore the Ignorant
**Label:** Warner
**Rating:** ●●●●

**THE GREAT BIG** gob of feedback that appears somewhere around the eight second mark of the first track, signals one thing — Johnny Marr came to play. And play he does. The former Smiths' guitarist's signature sound flies all over this superb album from West Yorkshire alt-rock punks The Cribs. There are moments on this album, especially the six-minute-long City of Bugs, that rival the double guitar eloquence of Television's new wave masterpiece Marquee Moon. And if you can't take the feedback, there's also the radio friendly Cheat on Me. It's the perfect combination of British punk snarl and art school airs. Marr, best known in recent years for his work with Modest Mouse, has found a second home with The Cribs. This is not just a passing fancy. Marr has co-writing credits on each of the twelve tracks and is an acknowledged full member of the band. It'll be interesting to see if Marr can keep both projects on the go.

Graham Rockingham/for Metro Canada

## Massari

**Album:** Forever Massari
**Label:** Universal
**Rating:** ●●●

**CANADA'S MORE KNOWN** for its rock scene, but it's an R&B singer who could be the country's next big export. The Stittsville Ont.-based artist's 2006 debut went gold and his followup Forever Massari, is sure to be an even bigger hit. The record is full of smooth club anthems — it's not butt-shaking bass, but rather, calm, silky odes to the ladies. Most of the music works, the melodies are infectious, and lyrics aren't crude — but he's likes to repeat his choruses a little too much. Still, there's no way Massari won't break out.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

## Wale

**Album:** Attention Deficit
**Label:** Interscope/Universal
**Rating:** ●●●½

**BESIDES DRAKE, THE** most talked about rapper over the last few months has been Washington D.C.'s Wale. His speedy Kanye-like rhymes have made the mix tape rounds, but it's only now that he's releasing his debut record. The album mostly lives up to the hype — Chillin is a solid dance floor number that samples Steam's Kiss Him Goodbye — while guests vocalists like Lady Gaga and Pharrell add some extra diversity. There's still some room for improvement — 90210, about Hollywood excess, is a bit cliché — but Wale's definitely one to watch.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

## Album Reviews

music@metronews.ca

## Robbie Williams

**Album:** Reality Killed the Radio Star **Label:** EMI
**Rating:** ●●½

**IT'S BEEN 12** years since Robbie Williams's hugely popular debut Life Thru a Lens, and while he's had hits since, nothing's quite lived up to that record. His last disc was a flop, and his latest isn't going to do much better. Reality Killed the Video Star is a cheeky title to be sure, but including other eye-rolling phrases like this throughout the disc may not have been such a great idea. The music is relatively safe and radio-friendly, but there's nothing here that's as compelling as Lazy Days.

Bryan Borzykowski/for Metro Canada

**Anderson demands flattering flassh from photogs**

Pamela Anderson has stirred controversy over her famous looks — after ejecting photographers from a Miami event on the weekend because they refused to shoot her with a flattering flash. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

# Tapping into the love generation

## Seymour-Hoffman connects with the passion of his character in Pirate Radio

HEIDI PATALANO
for Metro Canada

**It's pretty easy to tell that revered actor Phillip Seymour Hoffman is not so enthusiastic about doing press.**

He even starts to get itchy a few minutes into the process, scratching his right shoulder repeatedly while speaking with the slightest bit of impatience in his voice. Still, the sometimes boisterous acting auteur gives an equally lively performance as The Count, in Pirate Radio, playing an ex-pat DJ who joins an all-British pirate radio station in the mid-60s, at a time when the BBC refused to air the country's own ground-breaking rock music.

Phillip Seymour Hoffman stars in Pirate Radio as The Count, an ex-pat DJ who joins all British radio station in the 1960s.

**Q One of the most memorable scenes in the film involves a character quickly having to choose one prized album to save while the rest were destroyed. What record would you pick if you were in that situation?**

A I wouldn't do it, I've got to be honest with you. I would be thinking of other things. It would be family and stuff.

If I could get out with the family, everything else could burn.

**Q What about your favorite music that you discovered on the radio?**

A Oh God, I like so many different kinds of music just because all I did as a kid was listen to the radio. I didn't really buy LPs or go to concerts.

I wasn't a connoisseur, really, in that way. I would just sit in the backseat of the car and listen to the radio in the summer time.

Therefore, it's amazing all the different types of music I like because of that.

My dad would listen to jazz at night. I was introduced to all sorts of musicwithout any of it being shoved down my throat. Or being swept up into the whole, you know, I'm going to follow the Grateful Dead or something.

**Q Yet, you've played two characters, here and your character in Almost Famous, that have totally embodied the spirit of rock and roll. What did you tap into for those roles?**

A It's a passion for something. He's mad about something. It's not that hard to identify with those things. They're very successful characters to play and fun characters to play because what they're doing and what they stand for, there's not a person that doesn't immediately identify with those two qualities. It doesn't have to be about rock and roll.

**Q This seems like a much lighter role than those you usually take on. Was it a relief to play in a comedy like this?**

A It's a real ensemble piece.

That's part of it, sharing that burden with all, which is what the characters are going through anyway.

They really are sharing a burden of something they feel strongly about.

The movie itself has an energy about it they're looking to have a good time, mostly. So that could be fun especially with those actors.

**Q What kind of work did you do to get into the role?**

A What I normally do whenever I act. It's really boring. People find it very uninteresting. It's not like I set up a DJ booth in my apartment or anything.

**Q Where does your passion and energy for acting come from?**

A When I was about 12 or 13 I was a patron of theater and I loved it, had a huge passion for it. I just did. Why that is, I don't know. That's really what it still is. How I got on the other side of it, I'm still trying to find out whether that was a mistake or not. And I mean that half-jokingly and half-not in a way because my passion truly was watching. Going to the theaters I think is one of the rare gifts that we have, that a culture can offer a person.

**Q How did you compare acting with someone who is broadcasting on the air?**

A They're all in the same family in a way but I would relate being a radio personality more to being a writer than being an actor because the radio personality is trying to find their voice...They start out and they're trying to figure out who they are. Actors aren't like that because they're not trying to do one thing. They're actually trying to find a way to do that with many different voices.

# Giller winner back to work less than a day after win

**BOOKS** As a working journalist, Linden MacIntyre doesn't have much time to savour his elevation to the ranks of the Canadian literary elite.

The morning after his novel The Bishop's Man won the $50,000 Scotiabank Giller Prize, the veteran broadcaster was sitting in the Toronto offices of his publisher Random House Canada and he was already moving on to the next, looming deadline.

MacIntyre had little choice but to go into his office later in the day to put the finishing touches on a segment about the perils of marijuana trafficking in B.C. that airs Friday on The Fifth Estate.

"I'm going on a shoot for that next week," said MacIntyre, 66. "Life goes on."

No time to savour the win? No time to polish his Giller?

"That's what it's all about," MacIntyre said. "It's all about getting an audience for the book and getting people talking and thinking about the book ... and moving on."

And moving up. MacIntyre hadn't even accepted the award before Random House president Brad Martin ordering up an additional 40,000 copies of The Bishop's Man. For starters. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

**Past**

- Historically, a Giller winner gets a substantial bump in sales. Joseph Boyden's Through Black Spruce, which claimed the Giller last year, experienced a 300 per cent bump after the win was announced, with sales climbing from 30,000 to 90,000.

**Peer praises Beyoncé's style**
Leona Lewis has praised Beyoncé Knowles' sense of style. The singer was thrilled to meet the pop superstar at the recent MTV Europe Music Awards because Beyoncé is so "nice" and stylish. **FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK**

# Recording new disc got emotional for Rihanna

**Rihanna says recording songs on her new album was such an emotional experience that she sometimes had to leave the studio to prevent herself from breaking down.**

"I walked out the studio a few times just trying not to be in tears," she said this week about recording her fourth studio album, Rated R, to be released on Nov. 23.

"It was about me, and so much so that songs got really personal to the point where it took three months for me to start recording it because it was too deep for me to even listen to," she said.

The CD comes nine months after the 21-year-old singing sensation was attacked by ex-boyfriend Chris Brown. Rihanna said recording helped ease the pain — giving her an outlet to express how she truly felt. "I got to vent because I didn't really talk a lot. I didn't talk to a lot of people about anything I was feeling. I just did it on the record," she said.

CARLO ALLEGRI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Singer Rihanna poses in New York City this week.

Brown was arrested Feb. 8. He was accused of beating Rihanna after they attended a pre-Grammy party. Brown later pleaded guilty to felony assault and was sentenced to five years' probation, six months of community labour and a year of domestic violence counselling.

Following the attack, Rihanna said she was sick of sitting at home and decided to head to the studio.

"I was tired of just being in the house and I just felt like I was wasting so much time and just being lackadaisical, so I just wanted to work again and we started recording," she said.

Rihanna, who won a Grammy for the megahit Umbrella, says the new album's sound is "darker" than her previous ones because it reflects her turbulent year. "The recording experience was different because it was from a completely new mind space, from a different perspective. Usually I was thinking of fun stories, things to talk about, different topics that might be cool, but this time is really about my life," she said.

**"I got to vent because I didn't really talk a lot. I didn't talk to a lot of people about anything I was feeling. I just did it on the record."**
Rihanna

Rihanna also said the album is a reflection of Rihanna the woman — not the image we've come to know. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

## Entertainment in brief

**TELEVISION** Skating legends Barb Underhill and Paul Martini are reuniting for a special performance on the finale of CBC's Battle of the Blades. Show producer John Brunton says the retired skating team, who claimed the world champion title in 1984, will skate together for the first time in 10 years at Toronto's Maple Leaf Gardens. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steve Cochrane, left, Phyllis Ellis, Steve Morana from Three Chords From The Truth on CMT, are pictured in this undated handout photo. Ellis hopes that a Gemini nod could have the power of a resurrection. Her show, Three Chords from the Truth, is one of several heading into Saturday's awards celebrating Canada's best television already cancelled, but she says that critical recognition is still important to her.

# Hitting the wrong pitch

## Despite being nominated for two Geminis, CMT show still finds itself being cancelled

**Phyllis Ellis is hoping a Gemini award could have the power of a resurrection.**

Despite being cancelled after only 10 episodes, Ellis's Three Chords From the Truth is up for two awards, including best comedy program, at the ceremony celebrating Canada's homegrown TV talent this weekend.

Ellis says it's fantastic to hear her show's name bandied about again after it was unsuccessful at finding an audience on CMT.

"It's really nice to have a little revival of even the name of the show, people talking about it again, and knowing that our work had value. It's a real honour," she said.

"It would be great if it had an opportunity to be seen. It was aired very late at night and I think most people were asleep," she said with a laugh.

CBC funnyman Ron James will host the awards, which are set to air Saturday on Global and Showcase.

The leading nominee is the CTV cop drama Flashpoint, which is up for a record 19 trophies. The period drama The Tudors has 11 nods and the rookie dramedy Being Erica has snagged nine nominations.

Several other shows vying for Canadian television's top honours have also seen the end of their run. Showcase's Testees, which is also up for best comedy series, was not renewed after a single season.

Ellis said the fact that critically acclaimed shows are being cancelled without finding an audience indicates that quality Canadian television is not being sufficiently appreciated.

"I always say this joke and I mean it with all due respect to everything — only in Canada would a show that nobody saw be nominated, or win an award."

She said she hopes the nod could mean it really isn't the end for her show, for which she was co-writer, co-creator, producer and star.

"Three Chords told the story of a fictional country music station overrun by fame junkies and cutthroat record execs, but she said the core cast could easily shift to any other location on another network.

Other stars have noted that popularity doesn't necessarily translate into a chance at award-show hardware.

Canada's beloved Corner Gas, widely considered the country's most popular sitcom of all time, was shut out of the nominations this year, something creator and star Brent Butt called "kind of goofy." The series has nabbed five Geminis over its six-season run, including the best comedy titles in 2005, 2006 and 2007.

> **"I always say this joke and I mean it with all due respect to everything — only in Canada would a show that nobody saw be nominated, or win an award"**
> Phyllis Ellis, creator of Three Chords From the Truth

Sara Morton, head of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television, said nominees are selected by a peer jury made up of people who work in the area of TV being judged. The quality of shows is placed above ratings, although the shows that are nominated are often popular, she said.

Morton said viewers can expect a distinctly western flavour when the show airs this weekend. After traditionally being held in Toronto, the show has hit the road for several years, visiting Regina and Vancouver. "We want the viewers to know that the show is coming from Calgary, Alberta, and really have some fun with that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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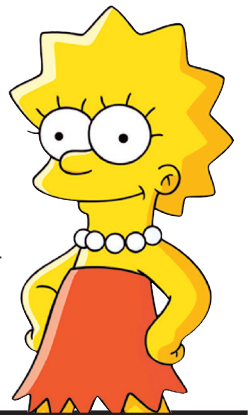
**Smallville goes big on small screen**
The CW has decided to package Smallville's upcoming Justice Society-themed two-parter into a two-hour movie event airing on Jan. 29. The episodes will feature such DC Comics stalwarts as Stargirl, Hawkman, and Dr. Fate. EW.COM

# Something not right in Springfield?

## Behind-the-scenes Simpsons book questions the Matt Groening creative-genius legend



**During the ongoing run of more than 20 years on the air, the creators of the Simpson clan have created an empire out of collectively mocking authority and poking a finger in the eye of the establishment.**

But when Toronto native John Ortved began investigating the behind-the-scenes history of the show for his book, The Simpsons: An Uncensored, Unauthorized History, the longtime fan came to realize that The Simpsons has become a tightly guarded, rigid establishment of its own.

"(Simpsons producer) James L. Brooks drafted a letter to everybody who had worked on The Simpsons ever asking them not to speak to me," Ortved said.

Yet over the objections Ortved was able to gather more than 80 interviews.

Groening has long been considered the creative genius behind The Simpsons, its ubiquitous titular family, the wacky denizens of Springfield who orbit them, and the pointed, rapid-fire social satire that is the show's stock in trade. But one of the central revelations of Ortved's book is just how erroneous that assumption is.

"These writers and producers told me that Matt Groening has either taken or received too much credit over the past 20 years," Ortved said.

Ortved even nabbed an interview with Fox boss Rupert Murdoch, who laughed off the protests of his producers "Those creative types," Ortved remembers Murdoch saying, "They're always looking to pick a fight."

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**Griffin guests on Law & Order**

Comedian Kathy Griffin will guest star on an episode of Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. The D-List star would be appearing later this season playing a lesbian activist. TVGUIDE.COM

# Jackson funeral costs top $1M

**Michael Jackson's private family funeral was fit for a king and had a price tag to match — roughly $1 million US, according to court documents.**

Although Jackson died in June and had a large public tribute at the Staples Center in Los Angeles in July, the private family funeral held Sept. 3 appeared to have been arranged with urgency.

Legal requests for payments filed with estate administrators by attorneys for Michael Jackson's mother only three days before the scheduled burial noted that if payment was not received by the funeral home and the Glendale Police Department by Sept. 1, "the funeral will not proceed."

The lawyers warned that such a development would cause Katherine Jackson and the family "public embarrassment and added grief, along with the daunting task of having to make new arrangements."

Jackson

There was no indication of resistance by the administrators, who approved payment of all expenses and reimbursement of Michael Jackson's sister Janet for an advance payment to Forest Lawn-Glendale of $49,000.

The final tally of costs included $855,730 to Forest Lawn for cemetery and funeral charges including the purchase of other plots within the same mausoleum that houses Jackson's body.

Also listed were: $35,000 for burial garments; $1,975 for wardrobe for the family; $2,000 for usher costumes; $3,682 for framing of a photograph of Jackson next to the casket; $959 for embroidery; $11,716 for invitations and programs; $16,000 for flowers; $30,000 for cars and security; and $15,000 for a funeral designer. There was also a charge of $21,455 for the "funeral repast" at a restaurant after the ceremony.

During the period that the family waited to bury Jackson, they were charged $5,000 a month for holding the remains in a temporary vault. The documents showed that his mother, brother Randy and sister Janet were involved in the planning and were mindful that the media would be covering the funeral, although media were not allowed inside the ceremony.

"Mrs. Jackson and her family wish to honour her son by a funeral that seeks to offer solace to his multitude of fans and by which the family also may be comforted," the attorneys said. The costs were substantial but "entirely commensurate with the decedent's worldwide status as an entertainer and the world's grief over his death."

Mrs. Jackson's attorneys were granted the request for $1 million. The administrators noted this was in addition to the costs of the Staples Center tribute. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Warhol sells at auction

- A Thriller-era silk-screened portrait of Michael Jackson created by Andy Warhol has sold for $812,500 US to an anonymous collector. The artwork sold at Christie's in New York City Tuesday. Christie's estimated the portrait would sell for $500,000 to $700,000. The 1984 portrait depicts a smiling Jackson in a jacket with squiggles of red and yellow in his hair.

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metro
E! ENTERTAINMENT

**The spell is broken**

ABC says its new drama Eastwick, starring Paul Gross and Lindsay Price, won't be continued beyond its first 13 episodes. Based on the John Updike novel The Witches of Eastwick, the show has been haunted by low ratings, attracting fewer than five million viewers last week. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# Swift, Kristofferson awarded

## Young artist scoops up major country honours at BMI

**Taylor Swift started what could be a very good week on Tuesday, with her second straight award for song of the year at the BMI Country Awards.**

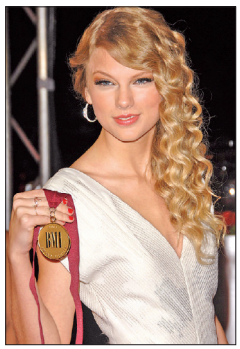
Swift, 19, won for her song Love Story. Bobby Pinson was named songwriter of the year and Sony/ATV Music was named publisher of the year. BMI also honoured Brooks & Dunn with the president's award.

"I just want to say to every songwriter and every loved one of a songwriter, thank you, because you are the reason I wanted to try Nashville," Swift said. "You are all my heroes."

But it was Kris Kristofferson, the 73-year-old songwriter of classics like Sunday Mornin' Come Down and Me and Bobby McGee, who had the audience's attention when he received an icon award

Willie Nelson, Patty Griffin and Vince Gill paid tribute to Kristofferson, who cried during Griffin's rendition of Help Me Make it Through the Night.

"There's no better songwriter alive than Kris Kristofferson," said Nelson. "Everything he writes is a standard and we're all just going to have to live with that."



PHOTOS BY PETER KRAMER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taylor Swift, left, was awarded the song of the year prize, for Love Story, at Tuesday's BMI Country Awards. Songwriter Kris Kristofferson, far right, was honoured by Vince Gill and Willie Nelson.

Kristofferson admitted to being overwhelmed by the attention. "You want the honest truth?" Kristofferson asked with a wry smile. "I'm very honoured, but I'm really uncomfortable with everybody saying something praiseworthy and I feel stupid.

"I told Willie this is going to be really hard on me. He said, 'That's why I'm going like it so much, because you're going to hate it.' But I'm awfully grateful that what I love to do means enough to other people that I'm able to do it."

Ray Stevens was among the first to take a chance on a Kristofferson song, recording Sunday Mornin' a year before Johnny Cash turned it into a hit.

"Nobody had ever put that much money and effort into recording one of my songs," Kristofferson said. "I remember the first time I heard it … I had to leave the publishing house and I just sat on the steps and wept because it was such a beautiful thing."

Pinson is one of Nashville's hottest songwriters, with four songs among those most performed in the last year. He co-wrote No. 1 hits All I Want to Do and Already Gone with Sugarland.

BMI (Broadcast Music Inc.) is a performing rights organization.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# NBC's prime-time shows going green

**TELEVISION** NBC gives new meaning to the phrase "green screen" next week, spreading an environmental message across five of its prime-time programs.

30 Rock leads the way, with Al Gore in a cameo role. Environmental themes will also be highlighted in The Biggest Loser, The Office, Heroes and Community.

NBC Universal's three-year green campaign has largely focused on off-camera issues like making company facilities more eco-friendly. News programs have also been enlisted to produce stories on environmental issues, but except for one 30 Rock episode two years ago, the campaign hasn't reached into the prime-time lineup.

Al Gore

Next week on 30 Rock, corporate boss Jack Donaghy (Alec Baldwin) tells the late-night show's staff it must cut its carbon footprint by five per cent, and puts Kenneth the Page (Jack McBrayer) in charge. "It's something that is relatable and is something that a lot of people are doing," said McBrayer.

Backstage, the show has removed water bottles in favour of water filters, and uses chemical-free cleaning products. The show rents hybrid vehicles to transport its actors and crew members, said Beth Colleton, vice-president of the Green Is Universal campaign.

In the comedy Community, the college is renamed Environdale. Students think they're hiring the band Green Day for a gig, but instead get the Celtic combo Greene Daeye.

Dwight (Rainn Wilson) in The Office takes on the role of Recyclops, while Heroes will feature cast members filling a truck with recyclables and talking about the importance of giving back to the earth. Trainers on The Biggest Loser instruct their clients to buy organic produce, and bring their own mugs to the coffee shop. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

# New concert website unveiled

**MUSIC** A new website allows music lovers to watch concerts free online, choosing from five different camera angles.

BillboardLive.com says its new site will offer visitors different perspectives on performances by Alicia Keys, Usher, David Archuleta, Daughtry and other artists yet to be announced. The site allows visitors to use Twitter or Facebook during a webcast. The application is available on the iPhone.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## In brief

**STONE BROKE** Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood has been divorced by his wife of 24 years, Jo Wood, on grounds of adultery. The couple have two children. They split last year after the musician began an affair with a young Russian woman. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kenya's Style

Kenya Hunt
Exclusively at metronews.ca/globalstyle

**primetime** — 11/12/09

| OT | Vu | SC | C | | 7:00 | 7:30 | 8:00 | 8:30 | 9:00 | 9:30 | 10:00 | 10:30 | 11:00 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| cable variety | 265 | 353 | 2 | TVO | Super Structures (N) | | The Agenda With Steve Paikin | | Occupation (Part 1 of 3) (N) | | Masterworks (N) | | Agenda-Paikin |
| | 211 | 331 | 3 | GTV | ET Canada | Entertainment | Survivor: Samoa (N) | | The Office (N) | The Office | 90210 (HDTV) (N) | | News Final (N) |
| | - | - | 5 | SRC | Virginie (SC) | Infoman (SC) | Enquête (HDTV) (SC) | | 3600 secondes d'extase (SC) | | Le Téléjournal Nouvelles. (SC) | | La Zone (SC) |
| | 209 | 342 | 6 | CHRO | TMZ (N) | Hollywood | FlashForward (HDTV) (N) | | Fringe (HDTV) (N) | | (10:01) Private Practice (N) | | Comedy Now |
| | 196 | 311 | 7 | CTV | The Vampire Diaries (N) | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | Grey's Anatomy (N) | | The Mentalist (HDTV) (N) | | CTV News |
| | 208 | 303 | 8 | CBC | Wheel-Fortune | Jeopardy! (N) | After Elizabeth II (N) | | The Border (N) | | CBC News: The National | | The Hour |
| | - | 360 | 9 | NBC | Wheel-Fortune | Jeopardy! (N) | Community (N) | Parks-Recreat | The Office (N) | 30 Rock | The Jay Leno Show (N) | | News |
| | 117 | 713 | 10 | TVA | La Fièvre de la danse (SC) | | Dieu Merci (HDTV) (N) (SC) | | Le Gentleman (N) (SC) | | TVA nouvelles | (10:45) Denis Lévesque | |
| | - | - | 11 | QS | Taxi payant (N) | Rire et délire | Fringe "Passe-Muraille" (SC) | | Catherine (SC) | Bob Gratton | Le Mur (SC) | L'Attaque à 5 (N) | |
| | 137 | 763 | 12 | TFO | Panorama | | Météo | Volt "Drogues" | *Le Gosse* (1921, Comédie) | | Le Gosse | Vie de chien | Expédition |
| | - | 362 | 13 | CBS | The Insider (N) | Judge-Brown | Survivor: Samoa (N) | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | The Mentalist (HDTV) (N) | | Two/Half Men |
| | 216 | 395 | 14 | OMN2 | Family Guy | The Office | Omni News: S. Asian Edition | | Omni News: Cantonese Edition | | Two/Half Men | King | Talk About It |
| | 214 | 344 | 15 | CITY | Law & Order: SVU | | Community (N) | Parks-Recreat | 30 Rock | 30 Rock | The Jay Leno Show (N) | | News |
| | 115 | 343 | 16 | CFMT | Two/Half Men | The Simpsons | Omni News: Italian Edition (N) | | Vivere V | Omni News: | The Simpsons | King of the Hill | Metropia |
| | 218 | 345 | 18 | CHCH | *Undercover Angel* ★★ (1999, Drama) Dean Winters. | | | | *Dirty Harry* ★★★ (1971, Crime Drama) Clint Eastwood. | | | | News at 11 (N) |
| | - | 361 | 20 | ABC | Action News | Entertainment | FlashForward (HDTV) (N) | | Grey's Anatomy (N) | | (10:01) Private Practice (N) | | News |
| | 512 | 396 | 24 | CPAC | Dossier public | | Heure polit. | L'Heure politique (SC) | | | | Tête-à-tête | Dossier public |
| | 651 | 355 | 25 | CTS | Little House on the Prairie | | Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman | | 100 Huntley Street | | Life Today | This Is Day | John Hagee |
| | - | 365 | 36 | FOX | TMZ (N) | Seinfeld | Bones (HDTV) (N) | | Fringe (HDTV) (N) | | FOX 2 News (N) | | News |
| | - | - | 64 | PBS | Business Rpt. | Whiz Quiz | Manor Born | Time Goes By | Murdoch Mysteries | | Poirot | | Charlie Rose |
| | 205 | 312 | 104 | CTV | The Vampire Diaries (N) | | CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn. | | Grey's Anatomy (N) | | The Mentalist (HDTV) (N) | | CTV News |
| news | 502 | 390 | 26 | NW | Connect Today's biggest stories. (N) | | | | CBC News: The National | | The Nature of Things | | National |
| | 500 | 500 | 33 | CNN | Lou Dobbs Tonight | | Campbell Brown (N) | | Larry King Live (N) | | Anderson Cooper 360 (Part 3 of 4) (N) | | |
| sports | 406 | 417 | 27 | net | Over the Bolts | Sportsnet Con. | NFL Football Chicago Bears at San Francisco 49ers. (HDTV) From Candlestick Park in San Francisco. (Live) | | | | | | |
| | 126 | 730 | 28 | RDI | 24 Heures en 60 minutes | | Grands reportages (SC) | | Le Téléjournal (SC) | | RDI économie | Le National | Le Téléjournal |
| | 400 | 280 | 30 | TSN | NHL Hockey Ottawa Senators at Philadelphia Flyers. (HDTV) (Live) | | | | | Curling Road to the Roar: Men's A Final. (Live) | | | |
| | 410 | 403 | 52 | SCR | Score on NFL | College Football South Florida at Rutgers. (Live) | | | | | | | Score Now |
| family | 411 | 457 | 56 | OLN | Ghost Hunters | | Dog the Bounty Hunter | | Survivorman | | Ghost Hunters | | Bounty Hunter |
| | 417 | 406 | 59 | SC | Pass Time | NASCAR Hub | Pinks -- All Out (HDTV) | | Jacked! | Jacked! | Wrecked | Wrecked | Pass Time |
| | 554 | 544 | 48 | TEL | Stoked | Total Drama | Majority Rules | 6TEEN (N) | Futurama | King of the Hill | *Spaceballs* ★★ (1987, Comedy) | | |
| | 557 | 540 | 51 | FAM | Sonny Chance | Zack & Cody | Overruled! (N) | Han. Montana | Wizards-Place | Latest Buzz | Ned's School | Cory in House | That's-Raven |
| | 551 | 542 | 65 | YTV | Drake & Josh | To Be Indie | Malcolm-Mid. | Hates Chris | 8 Simple Rules | What I Like | Family Biz | Prank Patrol | Adrenaline Proj |
| | 570 | 580 | 29 | MM | The Daily Fix | | Ranked! | | Wild 'n Out | Wild 'n Out | Madonna: The Confessions Tour | | |
| | 615 | 520 | 31 | A&E | Criminal Minds (HDTV) | | The First 48 (HDTV) | | The First 48 (HDTV) | | The First 48 (HDTV) | | Crime 360 |
| | 628 | 584 | 32 | SPKE | UFC Unleashed | | The Ultimate Fighter (HDTV) | | TNA Wrestling (HDTV) (N) | | | | Warrior |
| | 521 | 560 | 34 | TLC | Street Customs (HDTV) | | American Chopper | | American Chopper (N) | | Street Customs (N) | | Amer. Chopper |
| | 145 | 761 | 35 | TV5 | Horizons (SC) | | Club social | | Envoyé spécial | | | Cité guide | TV5 Le Journal |
| | 616 | 521 | 39 | SHO | The Outer Limits | | Da Vinci's City Hall | | The Best Years (DVS) | | Saving Grace (HDTV) (N) | | NCIS |
| | 620 | 523 | 40 | BVO | Storytellers | PhotoXplorers | Bathroom Divas-Opera Star | | *The Saddest Music in the World* (2003, Musical) (DVS) | | | | Law & Order |
| | 520 | 505 | 42 | DIS | Daily Planet (N) | | Nostradamus Decoded Famous/infamous prophet. | | | | MythBusters | | Daily Planet |
| | 575 | 583 | 43 | CMT | Funniest Home Videos | | Reba | Reba | According-Jim | According-Jim | Home Improve. | Home Improve. | Unstable (N) |
| | 601 | 562 | 45 | SLC | Rich Bride, Poor Bride | | X-Weighted "Anthony" | | X-Weighted | | X-Weighted "Michelle" | | ET Canada |
| | 625 | 548 | 46 | COM | Air Farce | 22 Minutes | Corner Gas | Name Is Earl | The Simpsons | South Park | Hot Box | Jon Dore Show | Daily Show |
| | 294 | 529 | 47 | TBS | Family Guy | Family Guy | House-Payne | House-Payne | Law & Order: SVU | | *Trapped* ★★ (2002, Crime Drama) | | |
| | 600 | 564 | 49 | H&G | House Hunters | Property Virgin | Holmes Inspection | | Renovation | Disaster DIY | House Hunters | House Hunters | Holmes |
| | 627 | 528 | 50 | SPC | Stargate Atlantis (DVS) | | Star Trek: Voyager | | Primeval | | Eureka Baby gifts. (N) | | InnerSpace (N) |
| | 581 | 566 | 53 | MTV | The City | After | Disaster Date | Disaster Date | Real World-Road Rules | | Gone Too Far | | MTV Live |
| | 618 | 524 | 54 | TROP | Seinfeld | Seinfeld | The Outer Limits | | ET Canada | TV Made, Do It | Family Guy | Seinfeld | Seinfeld |
| | 522 | 506 | 55 | HIS | Apocalypse | | The Lost Book of Nostradamus | | | | Nostradamus: 2012 | | |
| | 129 | 773 | 60 | CD | Biographies | | Victimes | | Eaux troubles du crime (HDTV) | | Un tueur si proche (HDTV) | | Vidéo |
| | 261 | 394 | 61 | V | Murder, She Wrote | | On the Buses | 'Allo, 'Allo! | *Charlotte Gray* ★★ (2001, Drama) Cate Blanchett, Billy Crudup. | | | | |
| | 602 | 567 | 62 | W | Old Christine | Friends | Friends | Grocery Bag | Confidential | Confidential | Divine Design | Divine Design | Don't Move |
| | 269 | 350 | 70 | APTN | Wapos Bay | By the Rapids | Over the Bolts | Moose TV | *Lara Croft: Tomb Raider* ★★ (2001, Adventure) Angelina Jolie. | | | | Fish Out of |
| | 621 | 527 | 71 | TLK | Look-A-Like | TMZ | The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N) | | The View (HDTV) (N) | | The Dr. Oz Show (N) | | TMZ |
| | 603 | 561 | 95 | FN | Ricardo | Road Grill | Restaurant Makeover | | Big Chef Takes on Little Chef | | Ace of Cakes | Ace of Cakes | Family |

## critics' corner

**The Mentalist**

Minelli (Gregory Itzin) orders Patrick (Simon Baker) and his team to put aside their differences and work together with Bosco (Terry Kinney) and his team in order to locate a kidnapped woman who is being held for ransom in the new episode "Red Bulls." Robin Tunney, Tim Kang, Owain Yeoman and Amanda Righetti also star; Dominic Hoffman and Seana Kofoed ("Men in Trees") guest star. 10 PM on 13 CBS 7 CTV 10 PM on 104 CTV

**After Elizabeth II**

No matter how you feel about the monarchy, you have to agree that Queen Elizabeth II will be a hard act to follow. That's the premise of this new documentary from Montreal filmmaker John Curtin, which speculates on the future of the monarchy. Prince Charles is next in line, of course, but his political activism will make him a very different kind of ruler. The documentary also raises the question of whether the monarchy is obsolete and even inhumane. 8 PM on 8 CBC

**Meat the wine**
Exlpore Saulmi (cured meat products such as prosciutto and salami) with matching wines next Tuesday (Nov. 17) at LCBO Nepean Crossroads from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. $45 per person. lcbo.com. SHARI GOODMAN/FOR METRO OTTAWA

## Urban Foodie

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# Mexican mood and food in Market

SHARI GOODMAN
OttawaUrbanFoodie@gmail.com

**Ahora**
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**ahora.ca**
**613-562-2081**

**Signature Drink:**
Sangria and Jarritos
**Signature Dish:**
Burrrito de Pollo
**Rating:** ●●½
**Dinner & drinks for 2:** $30

Tucked away, below the bustle of the Byward Market, is a brightly-painted Mexican cafeteria-style restaurant called Ahora.

On my first visit, I ordered the Burrito de Pollo ($7), which came with a healthy portion of Spanish rice on a colourful fiesta-blue plate. The burrito was filled with a delicious blend of chicken, salsa, cheese and guacamole.

When I visited a second time, we ordered the Tortilla Soup ($4). Although my friend thought it was great, I found the soup peppery. The Enchilada de Pollo ($12) sounded promising but ended up tasting bland. My friend enjoyed the Quesadilla de Pollo ($7), which was crispy on the outside and filled with a blend of chicken, cheese and guacamole. For extra flavour, there's a salsa bar that includes cilantro, salsa verde and their signature Ahora sauce.

**On the web**

- Get recipes and more great food content at metronews.ca/recipes

On my first visit, the Alfajores ($3) enticed me. Two layers of cake sandwiched with Dulce de Leche and coated with coconut was my kind of dessert. Disappointingly, Ahora didn't offer any desserts on my second visit.

Although my first experience at this restaurant was pleasant, I was disenchanted when I returned. However, I will visit again to enjoy their Chicken Burrito, indulge in a glass of Sangria ($5) and hope that dessert will be available.

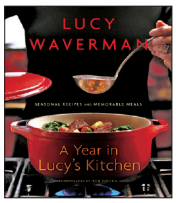
SHARI GOODMAN/FOR METRO OTTAWA

Enchilada de Pollo ($12)

# Lucy's cooking for every season

**BOOK** Capturing the trend to eating seasonally and locally, a number of Canadian cookbooks released this fall are featuring recipes to help readers do just that right in their own kitchens.

Veteran food writer Lucy Waverman really delivers style geared to seasonal meals in her new book, A Year In Lucy's Kitchen: Seasonal Recipes and Memorable Meals.




Waverman, the author of eight cookbooks, has a new twist in her latest book. Her husband Bruce MacDougall, an expert in tasting and matching wine and food, has put his talents to pairing her recipes with the appropriate vintages.

Waverman has also included several spiced-up recipes throughout the book.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

## Dining out

**A'ROMA MEZE**
Imagine yourself in Greece when you dine at A'roma Meze. At lunch, you can order a meze flight, designed to give you the opportunity create your own small plate platter. 239 Nepean St. (613) 232-1377.

**METROPOLITAN BRASSERIE**
Enjoy a slice of Paris along with oysters, mussels, and shrimp at the city's largest raw bar. Hill Hour specials are offered Monday to Friday from 4 to 7 p.m. 700 Sussex Dr. (613) 562-1160.

**GOURMET SESSION**
Get saucy at a Gourmet Session held at Le Cordon Bleu Ottawa this Saturday. Demo from 10 to 1 p.m. and Kitchen Time from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. $245 per person.

## In brief

**EVENT** Experience a food extravaganza next Wednesday (Nov. 18) at the Cedarhill Golf and Country Club from 6 to 9 p.m. About twenty restaurants and specialty shops will showcase their culinary specialties. You will also be able to sample wines, martinis, specialty coffees and beers Tickets $40. Contact 613-828-5556 or info@nepeanchamber.com.

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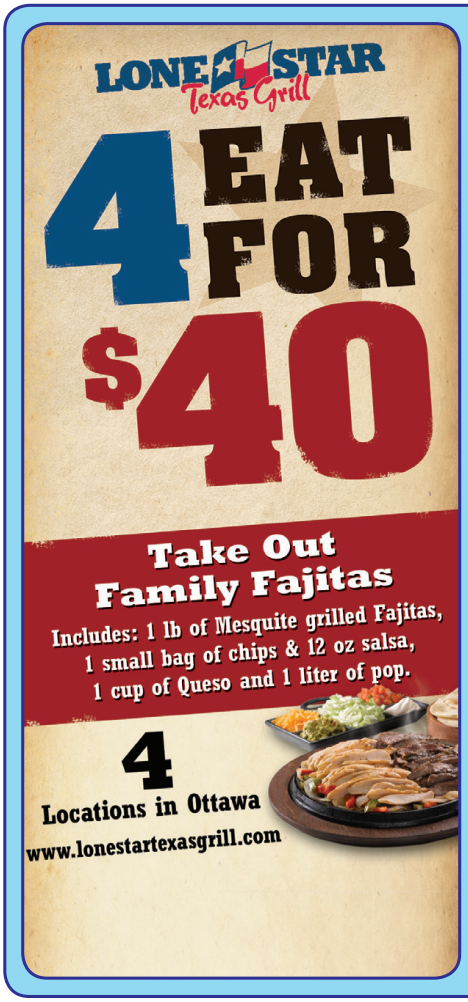

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**Splitsville for Julianne**
Julianne Hough and Chuck Wicks have decided to call it quits. "This was mutual. They needed some time apart," a source tells People. METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Celebrity Buzz

# Jon and Angelina reconcile

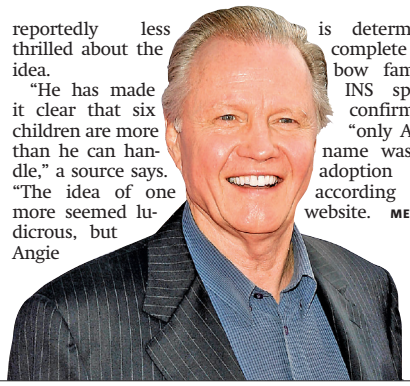
**SAY DAD, HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT BABYSITTING?** After a seven-year rift, Jon Voight tells the new issue of Us Weekly that he and Angelina Jolie have reconciled. "We're in touch, but not regularly," Voight, 70, confirms to Us Weekly. "We love each other and that's the most important thing."

Jolie, 34, stopped speaking to him in 2001 after a teary Voight appeared on Access Hollywood and pleaded for her to seek help for her "serious mental problems." But in February, "they met face-to-face" and have been talking ever since, a family friend tells the new Us Weekly.

"Angie made the initial contact," says the pal. "Brad (Pitt has been supportive — a key factor in her reaching out."

Source also say Jolie has her heart set on adding one more child to their family and has begun the paperwork to adopt a baby girl from Syria, according to Hollyscoop. But Brad Pitt is reportedly less thrilled about the idea.

"He has made it clear that six children are more than he can handle," a source says. "The idea of one more seemed ludicrous, but Angie is determined to complete her rainbow family." An INS spokesman confirmed that "only Angelina's name was on the adoption papers," according to the website. METRO WORLD NEWS



## Christmas will proceed as usual at Gosselin household

**SOUNDS SUSPICIOUSLY NORMAL** Jon Gosselin says he and estranged wife Kate will spend Christmas together with their eight kids, usmagazine.com reports. "Christmas Eve and Christmas day are joint-shared custody days, which means we're both in the house," he tells AOL's PopEater. com. "So we'll be there." Jon, 32, says he doesn't expect any showdowns, adding that he and Kate, 34, plan to stick to tradition. The kids "do the stockings early Christmas morning," he says.

"Kate makes sticky buns. We keep it all the same. Nothing has changed. That way they have the sense of security with everything that's going on."

He adds, "This year, there's a lot of paparazzi, so who knows? Every year it's different." With his hectic schedule, the reality star says hasn't started buying presents yet. "It will probably be all Internet-based this year, pre-wrapped," he adds. "You know, I'm a guy, when there's free gift wrap, I'm like, 'Yeah, yes please.'" METRO NEWS SERVICES

## Celine loses her baby: Rep

**FERTILITY BATTLE** Celine Dion has lost her baby. A spokeswoman for the pop star has confirmed that Dion's pregnancy, which she announced in August, has failed. The couple had its first child with the help of fertility treatments, she became pregnant again with the help of the same technology, and the couple has kept trying despite the latest setback.

Dion tried fertility treatment last month, but that didn't work, and she will make another attempt at getting pregnant this weekend in New York. Dion's husband Rene Angelil has told a newspaper that he and Dion are disappointed but determined, and that they take comfort in the fact they already have one child. Dion, 41, and Angelil 67, have an eight-year-old son Rene-Charles. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

## Kristen, Fergie are friends

**BETCHA WE KNOW WHAT ROB'S THINKING** While in Paris to promote New Moon, Kristen Stewart made a new friend: Fergie, who she met at a restaurant after dining with co-stars Rob Pattinson and Taylor Lautner.

"It was totally unplanned," a source tells People magazine. Stewart and Fergie reportedly chatted awhile before leaving together, holding hands as they walked out. "(They) looked like they'd gotten on really well." Fergie, meanwhile, recently told the Advocate that she's curbed her bisexual ways since getting married. "I've had a lot of fun with women, and I'm not ashamed of it," she told the magazine. "But just because I enjoy women doesn't mean I'm allowed to have affairs in my relationship." METRO WORLD NEWS

## Travolta likes to play tennis at midnight

**ENOUGH WITH THE DAMN VAMPIRES ALREADY** John Travolta has become a fan of playing tennis, but he tends to indulge in the sport at very strange hours.

"I play at midnight. Kind of vampire-style," he told Ellen DeGeneres when stopping by her talk show, adding that he doesn't have to look far for someone to play against.

"The house manager and the house maintenance person, they both live my hours, so at midnight we go to the local tennis court," Travolta explained. METRO WORLD NEWS

## Celebrity tweets

John Mayer has trouble adjusting to time zone changes, Paris Hilton loves indulging her inner child, Elizabeth Taylor is starting the Oscar campaign for "This Is It," and John Cleese finds Twitter's questions a bit invasive.

• @johncmayer
Anybody in the LA area who may have returned from a trip to Australia want to play some racquetball or rent a movie?

• @Paris Hilton
My man bought me a Pink Castle Moonbounce. It's so cute and so much fun!

• @DameElizabeth
I truly believe this film should be nominated in every category conceivable.

• @JohnCleese
All those tweeteries asking me what I'm doing. You'd think they never heard of Google. METRO WORLD NEWS

## Dina trashes ex over leaked phone tapes

**THESE FOLKS SURE KNOW HOW TO STAY IN THE NEWS** Dina Lohan is speaking out about Michael Lohan and the tapes of phone calls with her and Lindsay Lohan he's been releasing. "The tapes were from a long time ago, and for a father to stoop this low is unforgivable." METRO WORLD NEWS

## Renée's going to meet Bradley's folks

**DIDN'T THESE TWO BREAK UP LAST WEEK?** Things are reportedly getting very serious between Bradley Cooper and Renée Zellweger. So serious, in fact, that they may soon be planning a wedding.

"As soon as his mom gives the sign off, he's going to propose," a source tells Gatecrasher. He's even bringing her home to his parents' home in Philadelphia for Thanksgiving. "Things have been heading in this direction for the two of them for a while," the source says. "But this definitely solidifies how serious they are." METRO WORLD NEWS

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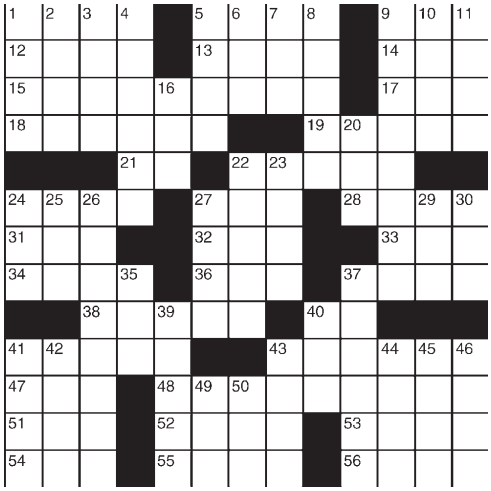
For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: **metronews.ca/food**

# Take Five



**ACROSS**

1 Hardly hirsute
5 Last few notes
9 Hairdo goo
12 Addict
13 Any time now
14 Raw rock
15 Farm animals
17 Playground game
18 River craft
19 Cow catcher?
21 "Heavens!"
22 On the qui vive
24 Wan
27 Fellow
28 Pull strings?
31 Red or Black
32 Commotion
33 Gridlock component
34 Jailer's janglers
36 Card-table cry
37 Terrier type
38 Final approval
40 End of a Descartes quote
41 Expenditure
43 Comments to the audience
47 Monk's address
48 Measuring device
51 Buddy
52 Unpaid
53 Roll call reply
54 Wapiti
55 Solidifies
56 Poker variety

**DOWN**

1Magnitude
2 Largest of the seven
3 Tax
4 Really handsome
5 Eliot-based musical
6 Yoko of music
7 Elmer, to Bugs
8 Bracelet location
9 Couldn't proceed
10 Historic periods
11 Toy block name
16 Firmament
20 Museum fill
22 Sound portion
23 Holyoke founder Mary
24 Request
25 Witness
26 Needle location?
27 Jokes
29 Aye undoer
30 Prior to
35 Droop
37 Margaret Chase and Anna Deavere
39 Vacillates
40 Donkey
41"... so why not take all —?"
42 Caspian feeder
43 Puts two and two together
44 Regimen
45 Beige
46 Timetable, for short
49 Shock and —
50 On pension (Abbr.)

## Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 2 | | 3 | | 6 | | 4 | |
| | | 5 | | | | 3 | | |
| | 8 | | 2 | | 1 | | 6 | |
| | 1 | 6 | | | | 7 | 3 | |
| 9 | | | | | | | | 6 |
| | 3 | 8 | | | | 9 | 2 | |
| | 7 | | 8 | | 4 | | 1 | |
| | | 2 | | | | 6 | | |
| | 4 | | 5 | | 9 | | 7 | |

**PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| S | W | A | B | ■ | P | E | A | ■ | S | T | A | B | | |
| A | I | D | A | ■ | O | A | R | ■ | T | U | N | E | | |
| P | L | A | T | I | N | U | M | ■ | A | N | T | E | | |
| S | T | R | I | C | T | ■ | O | R | I | G | I | N | | |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | K | O | I | ■ | R | U | N | S | ■ | ■ | | |
| A | B | A | ■ | N | A | B | ■ | M | E | T | R | O | | |
| F | I | N | N | ■ | C | O | G | ■ | D | E | A | R | | |
| T | O | T | E | R | ■ | A | R | T | ■ | N | Y | C | | |
| ■ | ■ | I | G | O | R | ■ | A | S | S | ■ | ■ | ■ | | |
| I | N | M | A | T | E | ■ | N | A | T | U | R | E | | |
| R | I | O | T | ■ | H | Y | D | R | O | G | E | N | | |
| A | N | N | E | ■ | A | M | P | ■ | C | L | A | D | | |
| N | A | Y | S | ■ | B | A | A | ■ | K | I | D | S | | |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 9 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| 4 | 8 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 7 |
| 7 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 6 |
| 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 5 |
| 6 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 |
| 8 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 6 | 3 |
| 1 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 8 |
| 3 | 6 | 9 | 7 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 4 |

## On the web

For more games and 60 additional daily cartoon strips, visit metronews.ca

## Metro Recipe of the Day

### Cauliflower & Goat Cheese Soup

Submitted by: Samantha Denham, Toronto, On

**INGREDIENTS:**

1 Head of cauliflower
8 Cup of chicken stock
1 four inch sausage of goat cheese

**METHOD:**

1. Chop up the cauliflower, removing hard pieces. Put in a pot with chicken stock.
2. Boil until very soft. (add more chicken stock if it is a large cauliflower.) Puree and strain.
3. Put back on the stove and add the goat cheese and mix until smooth. Garnish with spinach or parsley.

**SERVES 4**
**PREP TIME: 10 MINUTES**
**COOK TIME: 10 MINUTES**

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## Horoscopes by Sally Brompton sallybrompton.com

For Sally's expanded daily and weekend horoscopes, visit metronews.ca

**ARIES**
**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**
You seem to be under a lot of pressure at the moment, but nothing bad will happen so long as you keep your wits. You're tougher than you look.

**TAURUS**
**APRIL 21-MAY 21**
Don't plan anything too serious for the next 24 hours because this is a time for fun and games, not work and worry. Do only what makes you smile.

**GEMINI**
**MAY 22-JUNE 21**
Go out of your way to help other people, because what you do for friends and loved ones now will be done for you at some stage in the future.

**CANCER**
**JUNE 22-JULY 22**
It appears you are being far too critical, both about yourself and about other people. Life is not intended to be a burden; it's meant to be fun.

**LEO**
**JULY 23-AUG 23**
Hard work never hurt anyone. True or false? Whatever the answer, the planets urge you to give yourself a break, because you will diminish returns.

**VIRGO**
**AUG 24-SEPT 22**
Mercury, your ruler, squares up to Neptune, planet of spirituality, so chances are you will be more concerned with your inner life than with the world.

**LIBRA**
**SEPT 23-OCT 23**
You may have higher standards than most but you don't have to aim for perfection in everything you do. Even a Libra is allowed to let things slip a bit.

**SCORPIO**
**OCT 24-NOV 22**
Keep what you know to yourself today because the fewer people who are in on the secret the more leverage it will give you to influence events.

**SAGITTARIUS**
**NOV 23-DEC 21**
You don't need to exaggerate your importance – friends and family and work colleagues are well aware of what you are capable of.

**CAPRICORN**
**DEC 22-JAN 20**
You will influence important people with ease today, but you must not fall into the trap of promising things you may not be able to deliver on time.

**AQUARIUS**
**JAN 21-FEB 18**
You've got masses of strength, stamina and self-belief but you need to keep sight of the fact that you've got limits too

**PISCES**
**FEB 19-MARCH 20**
There is a definite luck factor working in your favor at the moment but don't overestimate your abilities.

TAKE A BREAK FROM WORK
Visit metronews.ca to watch
metrotube of the day

## This day in history

1927: Leon Trotsky is expelled from the Soviet Communist Party, leaving Joseph Stalin in undisputed control of the USSR
1933: Hugh Gray takes the first known photograph of the Loch Ness Monster
1969: Vietnam War: My Lai Massacre — independent investigative journalist Seymour Hersh breaks the My Lai story.
1980: NASA space probe makes closest approach to Saturn and takes first pictures of its rings.
1998: Al Gore signs the Kyoto Protocol
2003: The first Italian casualties fall in the American led Iraq War.

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